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Issue No 6

Available from Wednesday,
April 29, 2009

THE NEWSPAPER FOR SANDWICH, ASH & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

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2nd February 2009

Mrs Francois, Thamesmead
They were very nice men,
quick and tidy.

Mr & Mrs Holden, Deal
The men were very nice and friendly,
clean and tidy. They cleaned up
and took away all the old doors
they also put everything back and
tidied up after they finished.

Mr A Walters, Crowborough
Fantastic service.
Excellent fitters.
Very efficient.

Miss Rowe, Maidstone
Your workmen were polite, very hard
working and came across as genuine,
helpful people. The best yet, from all
the work I have had done by Britelite.

4th February 2009

Mr Wood, Tonbridge
Both teams worked very hard and were
clean in their habits and works. Both
very polite and answered all my questions
and cleaned up after themselves.

Mr Walder, Sittingbourne
Very pleased with the standard
of work, even though it was only
a front door. Friendly fitter who
tidied up after himself. Hope to
use again in the future for windows
and possible conservatory.

Mrs A Atkins, Dartford
I am very happy with my new
windows. Your fitters were very polite
and cleaned up afterwards. They
worked fast and efficiently. I will be
recommending Britelite to anyone who
needs replacement windows and doors.

Mrs Hicks, East Sussex
**A good job and
well done.**

6th February 2009

Mrs J Lind, Barnhurst
Pleasant good workers.

Mr & Mrs Jones, Maidstone
Very pleasant fitters who obviously
knew their job. We are very pleased
with the installation. Thank you.

Mr L.E Taylor, Crowborough
All the teams worked very well and
were very helpful. The top team
worked on to finished the job and did
not leave until after 8 pm. Thanks to
all concerned on a good job well done.

Mr A Alexandrou, Sandwich
Extremely satisfied with the installation
and the professionalism of the
installers. Would definitely consider
Britelite for further work in the future.

Mr & Mrs Walton, Cliftonville
Very satisfied with workmanship
of the two young men who
fitted the windows.

9th February 2009

Mr A Saward, Swanscombe
Top Team have been just that!
Where do you find such hard
working polite men? It has been
great having them here to do our
work. Well done to the fitters.

Mr A Davis, Sittingbourne

I researched for months on who to get to
replacement all my windows and doors I can
personally assure you to use Britelite they
are the best by far. The whole journey has
been first class from the relaxed no pressure
salesman visit to the helpful surveyor to the
very professional fitters who kept me
informed at all times and were extremely
friendly. Nothing was too much trouble for
them, a first class job and a very very happy
customer who will definitely recommend
them to everyone and I will not consider
anyone else for future work I need.

10th February 2009

Mrs B Pocock, Broadstairs
The work was carried out efficiently and
cleanly. Everywhere was left in perfect
condition. A job well done, thank you.

11th February 2009

J.R Cooper, Rainham
Very impressed, both men
never stopped working.

12th February 2009

Mr J Butcher, Ashford
Could not fault the installers. They
did not stop working from the
moment they arrived - very pleased.

13th February 2009

Mrs S Scotchmur, Sittingbourne
The fitters were friendly and
extremely competent at their job,
and left the site clean and tidy.

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Mr T Hills, Dartford.

**Excellent product
fitted to a very high
standard. The fitters
were extremely
quick. Very little
disruption and very
tidy. Many thanks.**

Mr & Mrs Hogbin, Canterbury
Very friendly workmen, came in and
got on with the job. Cleared up
after, left no mess and did fantastic
job. Very pleased with end result.

Mr & Mrs Judd, Marden
The four men worked well as a team
and installed 9 windows between
8.30am and 3.00pm they were very
pleasant and competent. They
left the house and surrounding
area clean and tidy. We are very
pleased with the finished result
and cannot believe how quickly the
task was executed. Thank you

Mrs S Miles, Folkestone

Found your fitters to be very cheerful,
friendly and cleared away all
debris. Would recommend you to
anyone thinking of improvements.

Mr & Mrs Gray, Chatham

As usual you team were very
professional, polite and courteous.
They cleaned after themselves and left
my home tidy we are very pleased with
our conservatory roof. Well done! (This
is the third time we used Britelite)

16th February 2009

Mr Fenley & Miss Doyle, Dartford

The group of fitters were very polite,
efficient and very helpful. I was totally at
ease having them in my home, which they
respected. They worked late to finish the job,
no rushing, just a good finish. Thank you.

Mr & Mrs McManus, Welling.
Extremely pleased with the way fitters
worked. A nice clean tidy installation.

Ms V Rogerson, Ashford
Very hard workers and polite and courteous.

Mr Leaske, Ashford

**Professional
enthusiastic and
pleasant members
of staff.**

Mr & Mrs Olley

The fitters are good clean workers
good job well done. We have been
using Britelite since the late 1970's

Mr S Clark, Sittingbourne

Very pleased with the windows,
service and fitting.

Miss Mist, Dartford

Your workmen were very pleasant,
very tidy and very, very quick.
Everyone was impressed.

Mrs P Kitley, Rainham

The fitters were polite, helpful and patient.
I felt at ease with them in my home.

Mr & Mrs Nichols, Maidstone

Once again well done Britelite as
with our conservatory the service was
excellent and the installers could not
have been better. From the sales to
the finished product a job well done.

Mrs Sinclair, Maidstone

I am very impressed with the team that
fitted my new door. They both worked
so hard and were very professional.
There was no mess to clean up either.
They did a fantastic job. Thank you.

Ms P Clowes, London

Great windows, great price, top
of the market product at a very
reasonable price, great staff too.

Miss Hoare, Tonbridge

We have been most impressed with the
service we have received. The estimate was
received on the day of our initial enquiry,
the installation has taken place with in
the projected time-scale. Your installers
were punctual, polite and efficient.

Mrs Tehrani, Walmer.

**Workmanship and
helpfulness excellent.**
**I have already received
several comments
on how good the
new door looks.**

**Miss Turner & Mr
Leadbitter, Folkestone.**

Very tidy finish and the window
looks great. Thanks

20th February 2009

Mrs I Sandys, Cliffewoods

The two men who fitted my door were
efficient and pleasant in manner.

23rd February 2009

Mr S Tole, Croydon

Excellent service throughout.

Mr Aldous, Ramsgate

Fitter very clean and tidy. Very
happy with windows would
recommend to others.

Mr Weekes, Ashford

We are very pleased with our new
windows and front door. The quality
and workmanship is excellent. The
installation team were very clean and
quick. We had no mess or damage
anywhere well done. Both the sales
rep and the surveyor were so helpful
in making sure we got what we
asked for we would not hesitate to
recommend Britelite to anybody.

Mrs Gracies, Greenford

**Very pleased with
the windows and
doors very good
workmanship.**

Mr & Mrs Sears, Maidstone

The salesman was a pleasure to deal
with. The base & top teams were
extremely hard working and competed
the job to a high standard would
have no hesitation in recommend
Britelite to friends and family.

All testimonials are genuine and can be inspected at Britelite's Show Centre

These are just a few of the testimonials we received since February 2009

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KENT POKER CUP - THIS WEEKEND

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£20,000

FOR FULL DETAILS SEE PAGE 6



JOINING FORCES TO FIND HIV SOLUTION

WHAT'S ON & WATCH
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AHOY THERE: A new internet TV station for boating fans is coming to Deal. Search 'afloat'

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The despairing faces of people with HIV have become an all-too-familiar sight across large parts of the world. But local company Pfizer is at the forefront of the battle to fight the killer condition by developing new treatments - it has even joined forces with rival company GlaxoSmithKline in its efforts.

EXCLUSIVE

BY NICK AMES

PFIZER is to join forces with rival company GlaxoSmithKline in the continuing war on HIV.

The condition claims millions of lives each year, mainly in developing countries.

According to figures issued by the US Central Intelligence Agency, 370,000 people in South Africa died from HIV-related conditions last year alone.

The multi-million-pound investment will help to ensure the continuing operation of the Sandwich plant, which is a major source of employment throughout east Kent. It has also been greeted with approval by groups which help HIV sufferers across the world.

Glaxo and Pfizer intend to create a new company to manage their joint HIV operations, with an initial working capital of £250 million.

The majority of the business will be owned by GSK, whose 85 per cent share reflects its portfolio of HIV drugs such as Combivir and Kivexa. The other 15 per cent will go to Pfizer.

Pfizer has a relatively new HIV drug, Selzentry, and is working on several more.

Chief executive Jeff Kindler said: "By combining our strengths, we are creating a new global leader in HIV and reaffirming our commitment to the treatment of the disease."

"The new company can reach more patients and accomplish much more for the treatment of HIV globally than either company on its own."

Sir Nick Partridge, who is chief executive of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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TOP TV CLIPS



1 Having fun with nature is child's play in Challock.
Search 'King's Wood' on the community channel



2 Film producer's new TV station for boating enthusiasts.
Search 'afloat' on the community channel



3 Musician Richard J Lewis at Folkestone's Quarterhouse.
Search 'Lewis' on the community channel

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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Author draws on his showbiz experiences

■ BY NICK AMES

PRESENTER, performer, writer and producer Paul Hendy has explored his showbiz background to compile his second novel

Who Killed Simon Peters? tells of the death of an A-list celebrity who backstabbed his way to the top.

It has been praised by TV personality Christopher Biggins as a "hysterical, rip-roaring yarn", while ex-EastEnder Shaun Williamson called it "a laugh a page and then some".

The story concerns the title character's rise from C-list obscurity to A-list superstardom and then the subsequent death of the self-proclaimed King of Saturday Night Television.

Peters, who is found dead in suspicious circumstances, is described as "deluded, self-obsessed and with an ego the size of Coventry".

Jokingly

It follows Mr Hendy's first book, which features the same character.

"My earlier work was Diary of a C List Celeb," he said.

"At the time I was working as a TV presenter and I drew on a lot of the extreme experiences I heard about in that world – not necessarily my own, but those of others I met up with.

"Now the character has clawed his way up to the A list, but in doing so has upset so many people with his rampant ego that suspects are hardly thin on the ground when it comes to his death.

"The story also looks at the way the whole celebrity culture has taken off.

"I mean, look at Susan Boyle of Britain's Got Talent. A few weeks ago no one had heard of her. Now she is never out of the papers."

Other celebrities have jokingly complained they are not mentioned



HIGH PRAISE: Paul Hendy's latest novel has gone down well with some celebrity readers

in Mr Hendy's work. Singer-turned-reality TV star Toyah Willcox called the book "brilliantly funny".

But she added: "Why isn't it about me, though? I think he should have called it Who Killed Toyah Willcox?"

Former BBC Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, who recently took part in The Marlowe Theatre's farewell night, said: "I had to read the whole book just to make sure I got a mention – very funny, though."

Mr Hendy, who lives in Easby and says he has a "showbiz age of 28", is a successful director of pantomimes at both The Marlowe in Canterbury and Chatham's Central Theatre.

He has hosted TV shows such as Don't Try This At Home and, less successfully, Wheel of Fortune – which had run for 20 years until he took it over. It was then cancelled after one series.

yoursandwich NEWS IN BRIEF

Book hospital date online at library

PEOPLE needing hospital treatment can use computers in Sandwich Library to choose where to go.

The Choose and Book system also allows patients to select a hospital for their first outpatient appointment.

The NHS Choices website www.nhs.uk offers an alternative to choosing a hospital by phone.

"Kent Libraries computers are free to use for library members," said Jon Marshall, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's support officer.

"People are often not aware that they can receive treatment at any NHS-funded hospital.

Libraries will be receiving an information pack to assist with any queries users may have.

Rock band hoping for national success

INDIE rock band The Flack have got through to the next round of a national music competition.

Steve Cheyne from Sandwich and Richard Harvey and Joe Fendt, both from Deal, are hopeful of further progress next month when they take on regional bands for a place in the national finals.

The winners will secure a recording contract with Future Music and a £20,000 grant to record and release a single.

Get free aftercare for hearing aid at clinic

HI KENT, the charity that works with the deaf and hard-of-hearing, is running a free aftercare clinic for hearing-aid users at the United Reformed Church in Ash on Saturday.

People with NHS hearing aids can get them cleaned and re-tubed and collect fresh batteries.

They can also get advice and information on Hi Kent's range of equipment, including door-entry systems, smoke alarms, telephones and television listening devices.

Saturday's clinic takes place from 9.30-10.30am at the United Reformed Church in Ash.

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Come aboard for the latest boating news

■ BY NICK AMES

A NEW television website has been launched for boating fans.

Among the subjects covered as Afloat TV starts broadcasting will be local sailing clubs.

Shipwrecks, boat maintenance and sailors' stories can all be found on the website, which also explores the maritime heritage of both Sandwich and Deal.

It is the brainchild of Kent producer and director Ken Rowles, who has had a lifelong interest in the subject.

"It is a website of interest to all those who have a passion for boating," said Mr Rowles.

"We will be filming at yacht clubs across the region and talking to those who sail and those who provide the materials necessary for putting out to sea."

Subjects

One subject being covered is the American Liberty ship Richard Montgomery, which is now wrecked off the north coast of Kent – complete with its cargo of 6,000 tonnes of ammunition.

The feature examines how the ship came to grief when it foundered in 1944 and the risk it poses to shipping.

Mr Rowles, who worked on many British films during the 1970s, said: "Come aboard – Afloat is the perfect port of call for all boat-owners and those who are thinking about buying a boat."

"Afloat TV is a valuable source of information on all aspects of boat ownership, as well as video clips full of information. Other subjects we are covering include the Royal National



Lifeboat Institute.

"Viewers can find out what events sailing clubs have in their area this summer."

"And if you are looking to buy or sell a boat, we have lots of contacts in our trading area where you can strike a deal with other seadogs."

Anyone who has a boating story they would like Afloat TV to include on the website can let the company know by emailing info@afloattv.com.

The website itself is www.afloattv.com.

• Email yoursandwich@kosmedia.co.uk



ALL ABOARD: Afloat TV, set up by Ken Rowles, left, has all you need to know about boating

Quiz helps young to enjoy museum

A QUIZ run in conjunction with the Children's University has been set up at Sandwich Museum.

It consists of a number of questions in written form about what is on display in the cabinets.

These items document the history of the town and include the formal robes of the mayor, weapons, photographs, documents, artefacts and model ships.

Curator John Scollard said: "The questions all relate to the museum and its exhibits. By filling in the questions the young people will get more out of their visit."

The Children's University is a national organisation offering children aged seven to 14 an innovative programme of high-quality learning opportunities outside school hours, with a focus on rewarding participation, raising aspirations and encouraging engagement with learning.

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



Photos like this could form the basis for a question. Search 'quiz'

Drugs firms' HIV project

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

the Terrence Higgins Trust, said his organisation "welcomes any move which will strengthen HIV research and development and benefit people living with HIV."

"We need to be making constant advances to stay one step ahead of the virus," he said.

The new company will be run by Dominique Limet, a former head of GSK's French operation who runs the group's medicine strategy.

Under the arrangement, either GSK or Pfizer could be rewarded with a greater ownership stake, depending on whose laboratories come up with treatments in the future.

The news comes as Pfizer also announced that it would be working with scientists at the University of London on stem-cell research.

Exercise scheme aims to improve your health

HEALTH group Freedomleisure's Sandwich branch is relaunching its GP Referral scheme this month with a concessionary membership.

The scheme, run in association with local doctors and the Primary Care Trust, runs successfully in other Freedomleisure centres across the South East.

It supports people and helps them feel comfortable with the idea of exercise after illness or injury.

Freedomleisure staff develop a programme that matches personal aims and abilities to aid recovery and encourage exercise, working with guidance from medical practitioners.

Participants are assessed midway through the 12-week course and at the end of their referral a report will be compiled for their doctor. Trained staff are available for guidance until

exercise becomes a matter of habit.

Freedomleisure offers GP referral clients a concessionary pre-paid rate of £45 for the programme, which includes sessions with qualified instructors on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 8.30am-3.30pm.

It also runs Active For Life classes on Mondays from 3.45-4.45pm and unlimited off-peak use of a gym.

An alternative pay-as-you-go 12-week option costs £17.50 for the induction, £3 per gym session and £2.50 for each Active Life class.

Sarah Bubb, manager at Freedomleisure Sandwich, said: "Any patient who thinks they could benefit from gentle, progressive exercise should make enquiries through their medical practice or Primary Care Trust on 0800 849 4000."

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Volunteers praised

TWO volunteers from Macmillan Cancer Support's Deal and Walmer committee have been commended for their commitment to the charity.

Treasurer Elizabeth Cole was presented with a platinum award for 30 years' service, while Barbara Williams was honoured with the Richard Hambro award for exceptional leadership.

The honour is named after Macmillan's deputy president and chairman and is given to volunteers who manage groups to an exceptional standard.

Grant Chapman, area fund-raising manager, said: "Elizabeth and Barbara's achievements are fantastic and these awards are a token of our gratitude."

"All volunteers play an essential role in increasing awareness and understanding of Macmillan, and none more so than Elizabeth and Barbara. Without people like them, we wouldn't be able to reach as many people affected by cancer."

To volunteer, phone 01622 600050.

I spy fun at castle

YOUNGSTERS have the chance to be secret agents during a weekend of spy-themed fun at Dover Castle.

Children can take part in code-cracking and secret activities over the bank holiday weekend, from Saturday to Monday, between 10am and 5pm.

Visitors will also have the chance to find out what it takes to be Q in the James Bond films, with the help of a blanket and chess set. The wartime tunnels will also be open to the public.

Admission prices are £10 adults, concessions £8 and children £6, while a family ticket is £25 plus £1 per accompanying child.


English Heritage members get in free, plus £1 for every child.

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 Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



 Mix of music from the coast and the Gurkhas. Search 'Gurkha'

Tories welcome town council defections after audit report

EXCLUSIVE

BY MARIJKE COX

TWO Labour councillors on troubled Deal Town Council have defected to the Tories following revelations in a damning audit report.

Last week, this paper revealed councillors had been accused of failing to spend taxpayers' money properly after an investigation by the East Kent Auditors Partnership (EKAP).

All those named were members of the controlling Labour group. Since then, Labour councillors Tracy Wilton (deputy mayor) and Pat Cook have resigned and joined the Conservatives. They will both be seeking re-election on the town council.

Cllr Wilton said: "Time and again I called on the Labour town councillors and Labour county councillors to act to tackle the culture at the town council. Each time they refused to act. They knew all about the dodgy goings-on, yet they wanted it all swept under the carpet."

Tory parliamentary candidate Charlie Elphicke, who has been calling for a clean-up at the town council, said Cllr Wilton and Cllr Cook

had shown courage in defecting. "I welcome them to the Conservative Party and I am delighted they will be standing for us in the by-elections. We invite other honest Labour councillors to consider joining us in our fight to clean up Deal for the long term."

Other members of the council, who were not named in the audit report, have spoken of their fury at being associated with the allegations.

A source close to the authority told this newspaper of the cross-party support towards suspending town clerk Leslie Bulman, who was mentioned in the report for his behaviour.

"Members are upset because the whole of the council is being blamed when really it is only a few who have been named in the report. We're calling for a full council meeting to discuss the matters. These people have been found out and something has to be done."

On Wednesday last week, members of the personnel and performance review committee walked out of a meeting, stating that until action was carried out they could not discuss matters fairly. The source said: "How can we have a fair meeting with all this going on? Until action is taken, we can't see how this council can carry on as normal."

According to our source, committee meetings arranged for last week were held in private, despite usually being open to the public.

The town council, which has 15 members, came under the spotlight in January, when former deputy town clerk Stella Leitner, 35, filed for constructive dismissal on a number of grounds, including financial errors and breach of the Local Government Act.

Cllrs Marlene Burnham and Sue Delling and Mr Bulman are named in the report. Cllr Burnham and Mr Bulman have been named for allegations relating to the way money has been handled, and Cllr Delling for unprofessional conduct. They declined to comment until the report, which remains private, had been considered by the full council.



ANNIE'S ART AT PUNDOLÉ

A Dover-born artist who once lived for years on boats in England and France is the latest to exhibit her work at Folkestone's Neville Pundole Gallery.

Annie Soudain's Birds-Flowers-Fruit consists of paintings, linoprints and heritage toys first inspired when she was commissioned to help work on the refurbishment of the Saga Rose cruise ship.

She also once decorated a life-size glass-fibre cow for the CowParade London exhibition in 2002.

Her piece Dawn Cowrus was voted CowParade Champion in a Farmers' Weekly poll and was later auctioned at the Royal Smithfield Show to raise money for charity.

Ms Soudain, who now lives in Sussex, enjoys painting in watercolour, gouache and wax-resistant silk dyes. She also uses printmaking, mostly linocuts and fabric collage.

All work is for sale and the exhibition in Tontine Street runs from Saturday (May 2) until the end of the month. You can meet Annie on Friday (May 1) between 6pm-8pm.



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HERE FOR THE BEER: The Granville Hotel and the Prince of Wales pub – two of Dover's lost pubs in their heyday

MP Gwyn joins battle to save ale-ing pubs

■ BY MARIJKE COX

A LITTLE over a century ago Dover was renowned as the town with a different pub for every day of the year.

There were 300 pubs and beer houses – amounting to one for every 100 residents.

Most other towns could barely muster one for every 1,000, meaning revellers would look to Dover for the ultimate night out.

But now, 100 years on from the Compensation Act of 1904, which aimed to cut the number of drinking establishments nationally, and the more recent smoking ban, more and more pubs stand empty.

In an attempt to stem the closures, 59 per cent of MPs opposed Chancellor Alistair Darling's recent increase on beer tax.

And more than 60 per cent of MPs also wanted the Government to support pubs as integral to our communities.

The poll, carried out by ComRes, was released a week ahead of the Budget by the Axe the Beer Tax Save the Pub campaign, which is spearheaded by the British Beer and Pub Association and the Campaign for Real Ale.

But the campaign failed to have an impact on the Chancellor and on Wednesday last week he announced a two per cent tax hike on alcohol.

The move has been labelled a "death warrant" by industry insiders.

Dover and Deal's Labour MP Gwyn Prosser was one of the MPs to have signed the early day motion supporting the Axe the Beer Tax campaign. He is also a founding member of the all-party pubs and beer group.

He said: "We must support the pub industry. I have been campaigning with colleagues from all parties on beer taxes.

"I've responded to letters from constituents, and parliamentary colleagues and I have set

up a new group on an all-party basis as a means of stepping up our fight.

"I met industry representatives in February and I will be meeting them again shortly in support of the great British pub."

About five pubs are closing across the UK every day, with beer sales at their lowest ebb in 40 years. Politicians and industry staff are concerned about the 7,500 remaining pubs and the threat to more than 40,000 jobs.

A spokesman from the British Beer and Pub Association said: "Pubs play a vital role in the economy and in local communities.

"The Chancellor's unfair and unjustified announcement condemns thousands more to shut for good.

"At a time when the rest of the economy is getting a supporting hand, the beer and pub industry is being singled out for punitive action."



SIGN OF THE TIMES: The Orange Tree in Folkestone Road has fallen by the wayside and is now boarded up

NEWS IN BRIEF

Silver star for green hotel

WALLETTS Court Hotel has won a silver star rating in the Green Tourism Business Scheme – the highest grading yet in Kent.

The four-star hotel at Westcliffe, near Dover, is classed as one of the most eco-friendly venues in the county, with owner Gavin Oakley priding his business on using local, free-range and organic produce.

To receive the accolade, which is presented by Visit Britain through the International Centre for Responsible Tourism, the hotel was assessed on areas including energy and water efficiency, waste management and biodiversity.

Mr Oakley said: "We are delighted to receive this accolade. We narrowly missed out on the gold award because we did not meet the exacting standards for providing a green energy-generation system."

Visit www.wallettscourthotel.com or phone 01304 852424 for more information.

Pfizer's IT helping hand

HEALTH giant Pfizer is donating almost £23,000 to help environmental and community groups upgrade their computers.

The company raised the cash by recycling redundant IT equipment at its Sandwich site. The scheme is to help not-for-profit organisations that help improve the health and well-being of people in Kent.

Donations were made to 26 groups, including several in Dover, Deal and Sandwich.

Pfizer's David Roblin said: "We are delighted to be able to help these hard-working local organisations."

Coast-walking trio rescued

THREE walkers from Deal were rescued by the Dover lifeboat after becoming stranded in Fan Bay.

The lifeboat was launched under the command of coxswain Stuart Richardson on Sunday evening and the trio were located between St Margaret's Bay and Langdon Bay – up to their thighs in water. They were picked up and taken back to Dover.

Mr Richardson said: "The walkers did the right thing calling for help before it got dark.

"We advise anyone who wishes to explore the coast to check the tides before setting out."

Appearing at the Winter Gardens

www.leisureforce.co.uk

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WHAT'S ON AT THE WINTER GARDENS

MAY 2009
Tuesday 26th - Saturday 30th
"A Night On The Town"
M.O.S Variety
JUNE 2009
Wednesday 3rd
Keeping Up With The Joans
Sunday 7th
Central Band of The Royal British Legion
Friday 12th
Here Come The Boys
Saturday 13th
An Audience with Sally Morgan
Sunday 14th
Ali Campbell in Concert

July 2009
Saturday 14th - Sunday 15th
OLIVER - Open Auditions
Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st
Margate's Big Event
Friday 3rd
The TAKE THAT Experience
Saturday 4th
Anything For Love
Thursday 9th - Saturday 11th
Children's Showtime 2009
Thursday 16th
The Kooks in Concert
Friday 17th
Three Degrees plus support
Saturday 18th
'Dancing Days'

Friday 24th-Sunday 26th
Margate Big Sky Jazz Festival
Saturday 25th
In Dreams
featuring music from Roy Orbison
Friday 31st
The Real Thing
AUGUST 2009
Saturday 8th
Joe Pasquale
12th Aug - 11th
"Razzmatazz"
Girling Productions Summer Show
SEPTEMBER 2009
Tuesday 1st
Paul Potts in Concert

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Mark Scutchings, Hearbase Ltd's Managing Director

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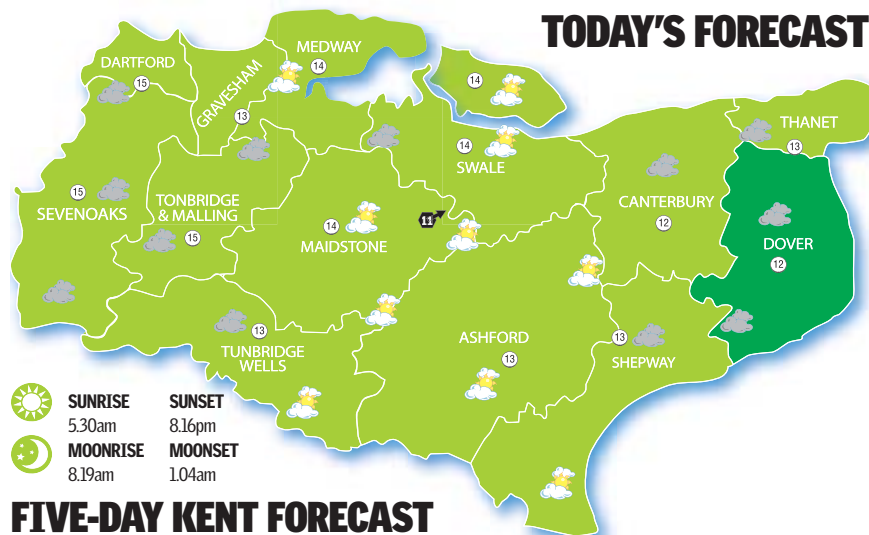
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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	7:00am	5.4m
	Sunday	8:18am	5.3m
Dover	Saturday	6:06pm	5.7m
	Sunday	7:03am	5.5m
Dungeness	Saturday	5:44pm	6.2m
	Sunday	6:21am	6.0m
Ramsgate	Saturday	6:04am	4.3m
	Sunday	7:33am	4.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	6:49am	5.2m
	Sunday	8:06am	5.1m
Whitstable	Saturday	6:57am	4.7m
	Sunday	8:17am	4.6m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	13°C	Madrid	17°C
Athens	17°C	New York	29°C
Barcelona	16°C	Paris	15°C
Beijing	24°C	Rome	23°C
Bombay	32°C	Sydney	17°C
Cape Town	20°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	10°C	Tokyo	19°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	20°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	18°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	14°C	16°C	16°C	18°C	18°C	Gravesend	14°C	16°C	16°C	18°C	19°C
Canterbury	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	Maidstone	14°C	15°C	16°C	18°C	18°C
Chatham	12°C	15°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	Ramsgate	12°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	17°C
Dartford	14°C	16°C	16°C	18°C	19°C	Rochester	12°C	15°C	14°C	15°C	15°C
Dover	11°C	13°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	Sevenoaks	13°C	15°C	14°C	16°C	17°C
Faversham	12°C	15°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	Sittingbourne	12°C	15°C	14°C	15°C	15°C
Folkestone	11°C	13°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	Tonbridge	14°C	16°C	16°C	18°C	18°C
Gillingham	12°C	15°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	Tun Wells	14°C	16°C	16°C	18°C	18°C

Council jobs at risk from merger plan

JOBS could be lost at Dover District Council if plans to merge HR services with three other east Kent authorities go ahead.

The move would save DDC more than £1 million, but some members of staff would face redundancy if human resources and health and safety facilities are integrated with Shepway, Thanet and Canterbury.

If councillors approve plans, the size of the service will reduce, but according to Cllr Frederick Scales, deputy leader of DDC, it will provide a larger pool of expertise while saving the tax-payer money.

Proposals for the merger were put forward by the East Kent Joint Arrangements Committee, made up of lead councillors from each authority. Joint housing and landlord services are also being looked into.

A spokesman for DDC said that affected staff were being kept informed throughout the process.

Consultation

"Provided these plans are approved, staff in HR will then transfer across to the shared service, (under the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE)), which will be hosted by Dover District Council."

Sarah Carroll, HR and organisational development manager at Thanet District Council, said: "A proposed structure has been put together purely for financial modelling purposes. Any final structure will be subject to full consultation."

If plans are approved, the move could see savings of some £2.3 million across the four authorities, with DDC benefiting from an estimated £1,037,212 saving.

The East Kent Joint Arrangements Committee will continue to look at integrating services to cater for a population of 400,000.

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Shocking Tie & Odd Shoe Day

On Friday, 15th May, 2009

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2009 DAY TRIPS AND HOLIDAYS

MAY		ADULT	CHILD	MAY		ADULT	CHILD
Sat 2nd	Finchcocks	£28.60	£23.60	Sat 30th	Brussels	£31.00	£27.00
Tues 5th	Le Touquet	£24.50	£19.50	Sun 31st	Rochester Dickens Festival	£17.50	£12.50
Thurs 7th	River Cruise & Country Drive	£18.00	£15.00	JUNE			
Sat 9th	Ostend	£24.00	£19.50			ADULT	CHILD
Mon 11th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£13.00	£10.00	Tues 2nd	Rye, Cream tea & Country drive	£17.00	£14.00
Wed 13th	Chocolaterie de Beussent Factory	£25.00	£19.50	Fri 5th	Alton Towers (2 nights)	£99.00	£99.00
Sat 16th	Monet's Garden	£37.00	£33.00	Sat 6th	Boudewijn Dolphin Seapark	£35.00	£29.00
Sun 17th	Chatham Dockyard	£19.00	£16.00	Sun 7th	BBC Radio Tour	£19.50	£17.00
Tues 19th	Southend on Sea	£19.50	£13.50	Mon 8th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£13.00	£10.00
Thurs 21st	Vimy Ridge & La Carrier	£31.00	£28.00	Wed 10th	Arundel Carpet of flowers	£22.50	£19.50
	Wellington War Memorial			Sat 13th	De Panne	£19.50	£17.00
Sat 23rd	Chelsea Flower Show	£57.00	£52.00	Sun 14th	London Eye, Carvery & Cruise	£54.00	£50.00
Tues 26th	Bluewater or Lakeside	£16.50	£10.00				
Thurs 28th	Boulogne	£23.00	£18.00				

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QUESTION & ANSWER

ANDY FORD



Q How did you first get involved with the trust?

A I was working for a local authority in Croydon for 20 years and I wanted to move down to the coast near Hythe and was looking for jobs in my field of learning disability. Previously I had worked with people with disabilities across the board.

Q What attracted you to that field of work?

A I started in retail but began by working with older people in the care industry. Through talking to people with disabilities I began to realise just how lives can be affected by disability. I then began to work with older mentally ill people doing rehab through workshops like joinery and woodwork. I was bowled over by how much I enjoyed it. That propelled me into understanding the different aspects of disability and into social work training.

Q What is the history of the Canterbury Oast Trust?

A It was started in 1985 by parents who wanted to get their children involved in doing activities during the day. They thought about buying a house where this could take place. The first building they had was a house rented in the Canterbury area – hence the name. Since then they have gone on to buy more properties and have expanded further afield. Over time the trust began to develop

more activities such as the farm which added another dimension. It allowed us to integrate more with the public and show them just what disabled people can do.

Q Do you think working with animals is particularly useful for the people you help?

A The therapeutic nature of working with the animals has huge benefits. When our staff tend and nurture new lambs or rabbits for example, they get to go through a whole life cycle of an animal from them being born to them dying. That whole process reflects what we do in our own lives. People with complex problems can gain so much from an animal. They may not be able to talk to them but they can feed it, care for it and stroke it. It nurtures them and brings out the caring side to their personality. People can feel very in tune with animals; sometimes more than they can with people.

Q What sort of other things do people do at the centre?

A It is not just the farm but also the restaurant. We also run plant and vegetable growing courses giving them retail experience selling the produce to the public. We have an arts and craft service which has a broad based range of activities including design and construction, needlework and pottery, greetings cards. All these require intricate and intimate skills and are given with accredited training. These are not

token exercises; if people have the skills we will bring it out in them. We also have a nature reserve. Twenty eight acres of ancient woodland near Aldington which is open to the public but managed by us. We have to do a lot of things such as coppicing which helps with wood craft skills and we build our own buildings.

We also teach numeracy, literacy, IT and French at Harrington College and have a life skills project that allows people to get out there and live independent lives. We want to help them through the transition into the real every day world. People with disabilities want to get out there and play a part in society and express themselves.

Q Has it been fulfilling?

A Coming to a small organisation like this has been great because we are not burdened with bureaucracy that a local authority would have. We can see right from the top down how things are run and how well we are achieving our aims.

Q How can people get involved?

A There are lots of opportunities for people to get involved in whether it be working on the farm to being involved in a life skill project just to helping out at the car park on a busy day. To volunteer call corporate volunteer manager, Rita Mathur on 01233 861493 ext 257.

Q & A

Reporter **Ed Hill** talks to Andy Ford, senior manager of life skill projects at the Canterbury Oast Trust, which supports people with learning disabilities in east Kent and finds out about his fulfilling career and field of work

Open Morning

Saturday 9th May 2009
10am – 12:30pm



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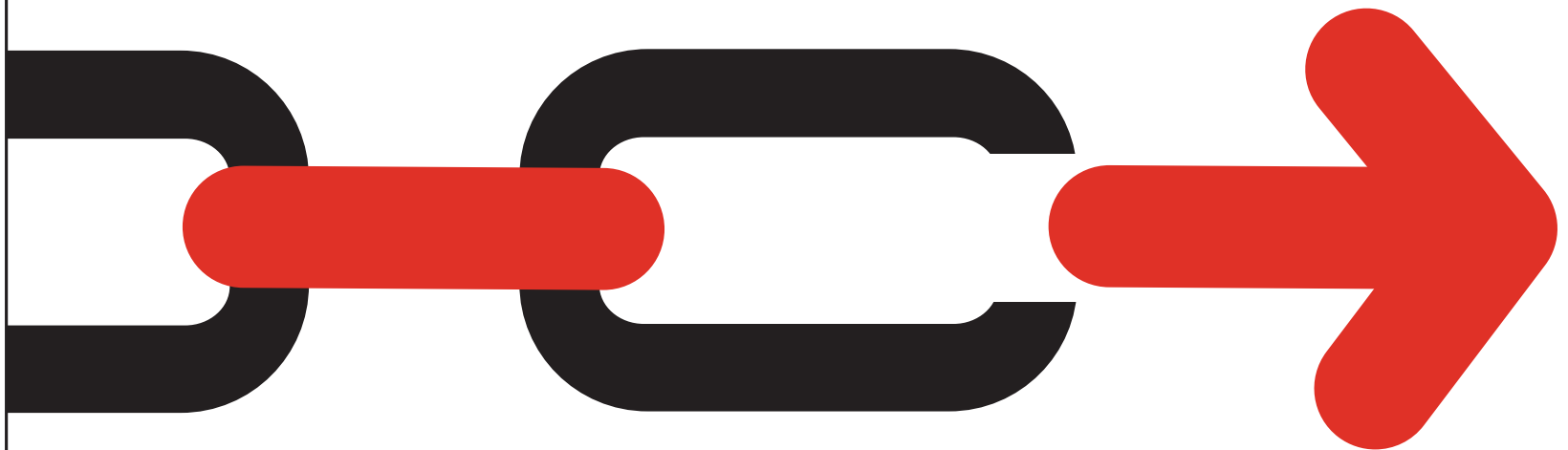
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EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Foreign truckers blamed for UK's porous borders

■ BY KEVIN O'SULLIVAN

THE true scale of Britain's lax border security has been revealed after shocking new figures showed that nine out of ten truckers bringing illegal immigrants into the country are foreign.

The UK Borders Agency admitted that of all the lorry drivers bringing in desperate migrants into the UK, 90 per cent were overseas drivers.

The figures, revealed following a Freedom of Information request, showed 1,571 foreign truckers were fined an estimated £2 million last year after clandestine migrants were found hiding in the back of their trucks.

In comparison, only 195 British hauliers were caught with stowaways and were fined some £300,000.

British drivers have accused their foreign counterparts of risking £2,000 fines per migrant found because they know they will not have to pay them.

The statistics only show what was collected by the agency, not the total amount of fines issued, meaning there is still more than £1million owed in fines by foreign truckers.

Shadow immigration minister Damian Green said the foreign truckers were "abusing" UK laws and that a crackdown was needed.

The Tory MP for Ashford said the £2,000 fines were not deterring foreign drivers, adding: "Clearly many are abusing our immigration laws and they should be punished effectively when they are found to be carrying migrants on board their lorries."

"This is why the Conservatives continue to call for a dedicated and specialist border police force."



PORT IN A STORM: Would-be migrants keeping warm in Calais, hoping to gain access to the UK

Trucker Mervyn Osgood, 54, from Maidstone, said: "It's an absolute farce – we always see the foreign drivers talking to the migrants in Calais."

"These figures don't surprise me at all."

He said foreign truckers caught with illegals on board simply ignored the fines handed to them – sometimes not even telling their bosses they had been caught.

He added: "They know they can get away with it because they don't seem to get prosecuted, so to them it's worth the risk."

"They get £1,500 from each illegal, so if they get four on they pocket around £6,000."

"Then they just unload their cargoes and head back to their countries."

"We can't do that because we live here and we take our jobs seriously."

The true extent of illegal migration is likely to be much bigger than the figures reveal.

The UK Border Agency admitted the stats do not reflect the fact that the 1,571 foreign

lorry drivers may have brought in up to ten migrants or more a time.

A spokesman for the agency said: "These figures don't reflect the actual figure because there are often more than one clandestine found per vehicle."

The spokesman said that last year a total of 28,000 migrants was caught trying to sneak into Britain on board lorries crossing the Channel by ferry.

The stats also revealed the foreign truckers were fined a further £811,507 for working in Britain without the necessary haulage permits.

Peter Cullum, head of international affairs at the Road Hauliers Association of Great Britain, said British drivers were doing their best to avoid migrant hot-spots across the Channel.

He said: "We know most of the drivers coming across with migrants on board are foreign."

"It's very few of our guys."

Desperate migrant clung to Eurostar train at 186mph

AN ILLEGAL immigrant clung to the roof of a Eurostar as it hit a top speed of 186mph travelling through Kent, it has emerged.

The desperate migrant is thought to have jumped on to the train from an overhead bridge as it slowed before entering the Channel Tunnel near Calais.

He then clung to the roof for the 45-minute journey through the tunnel before the train reached Kent and hurtled towards London – with the man somehow holding on.

The migrant was only spotted at Ebbsfleet International Station, near Dartford, as he tried to slip down inbetween two carriages to make an escape.

The bid has highlighted how desperate the estimated 1,300 immigrants living around Calais have become to get into the UK.

Jumped

Michael Whelan, 38, a passenger on the Brussels to London service on Thursday, told a national newspaper: "I spoke to the train captain at Ebbsfleet and he told me the train slowed as it approached the tunnel at Calais so he thought the man probably jumped on to the roof there from an overhead bridge."

"I don't know how long he was on the roof, but one of the Eurostar workers spotted him on it at Ebbsfleet and then he hid in the gap between the carriages."

The man, thought to be of Indian descent and in his early 20s, was arrested by officers from the British Transport Police before being handed over to the UK Border Agency, which gave him a medical examination.

Passengers were delayed as sniffer dogs were brought in to search for further immigrants, but the man had carried out his death-defying stunt alone.

A Eurostar spokesman said: "A man believed to be an illegal immigrant was on one of the train carriages. He was removed and detained by British Transport Police. We can't comment on how he got there, but the train would have reached speeds up to 186mph between the tunnel and Ebbsfleet."

Open Day
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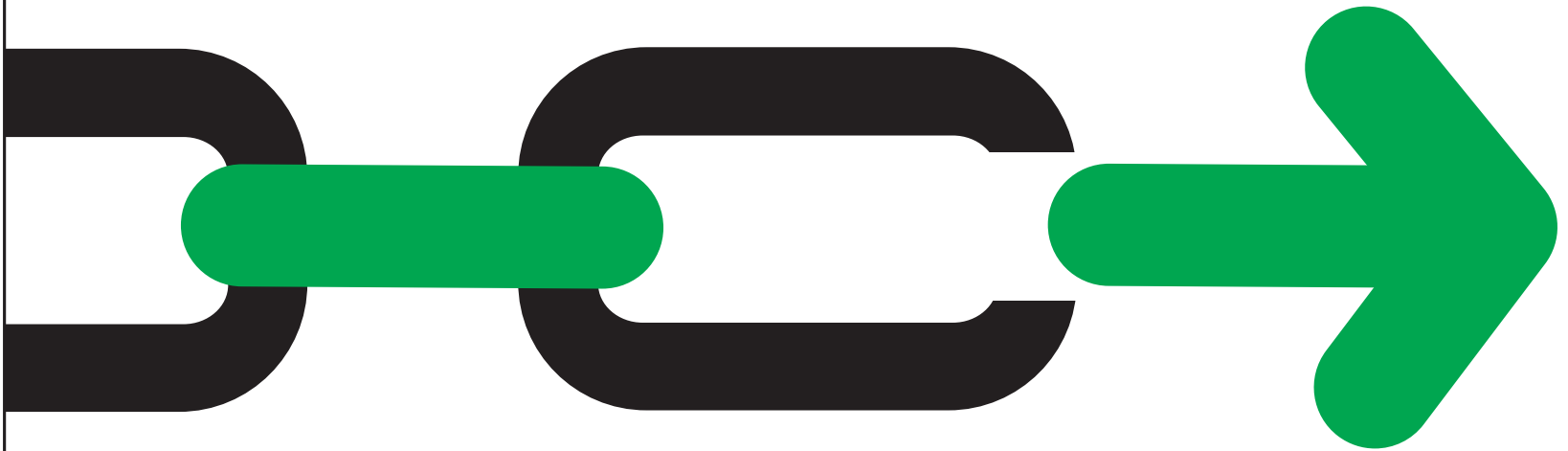


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But we need YOUR help to let us know which schools should get the cash and to help spread the word of all the benefits to health, the local economy and your pocket that buying local brings. The www.foodforkent.co.uk website is spearheading our campaign by offering a huge range of seasonal produce – all sourced, wherever possible, from Kent – and is the perfect one-stop shop for all your shopping needs. Now every time you place an order of more than £40 on the site, we'll donate £2.50 to your nominated school. All you have to do is let us know which school you want to support and give the money to, and then tell your friends and other parents. Every time



they then spend on the site, another £2.50 will go to the school – and you'll be surprised at how quickly it all adds up. The scheme has already been tested at a handful of schools across the county and is proving a big hit, with parents eager to take part and schools seeing the very real financial benefits. Jonathan Parker of www.foodforkent.co.uk, said: "Healthy, fresh produce should be an integral part of every child's diet.

"Food for Schools is an exciting new scheme where we can raise awareness of the benefits of local produce and donate significant funds to our county's schools.

"We've run a successful pilot and now we are rolling it out to the whole of Kent. If you care about children's diets, local produce and your local school, get in touch to see how you can help. Together we're going to raise a lot of cash for Kent's schools."

You may be a parent, teacher, governor or member of the PTA, but to ensure your school benefits, simply contact Jonathan Parker direct by emailing your details to schools@foodforkent.co.uk. You will then be given a special code and every time you shop with www.foodforkent.co.uk £2.50 will go towards the school – with the money handed over every month.

Foodforkent.co.uk is created by teaming up with long-established local producers of food and drink across the county, with impeccable reputations and a guarantee of top quality. It offers fresh, seasonal vegetables, fruit, meats, bread, dairy products and much more.

What's more, our price comparisons prove you can actually SAVE money on buying like-for-like products at supermarkets – dispelling the myth that buying local comes at a cost. But don't take our word for it, visit the site today – www.foodforkent.co.uk.

Flavour of the month? You're absolutely right

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Kent asparagus is available now and as a special promotion anyone placing an order at www.foodforkent.co.uk will receive a FREE bunch so they can taste it for themselves. The special offer applies to every single order placed between now and next Sunday, May 3.

Simply log on and place your order at the site and before you know it, your shopping will arrive – complete with the free gift.

Asparagus is the perfect example of a food benefiting from a reduction in food miles and is at its very best within hours of being picked. Meanwhile, next Saturday, May 2, the Penshurst farmers' market will be celebrating its arrival with an Asparagus Festival.

It will showcase locally-grown asparagus, while local farmer Michael Bourne will be on hand to showcase the best way to cook and grow asparagus.

Alison Shamash, the Asparagus Festival organiser, said: "English asparagus is always popular with visitors to the market. It has only a short six-week season, and it needs to be as fresh as possible, so local is definitely best.

"Asparagus contains high levels of vitamin A, folic acid and dietary fibre, which all play an important role in fighting cancer.

"It is also rich in soluble fibre, which has a protective effect against degenerative heart diseases. There are fewer than four calories per spear, and it is very low in cholesterol and has no fat. And because it's so local, it's very low in food miles, too."



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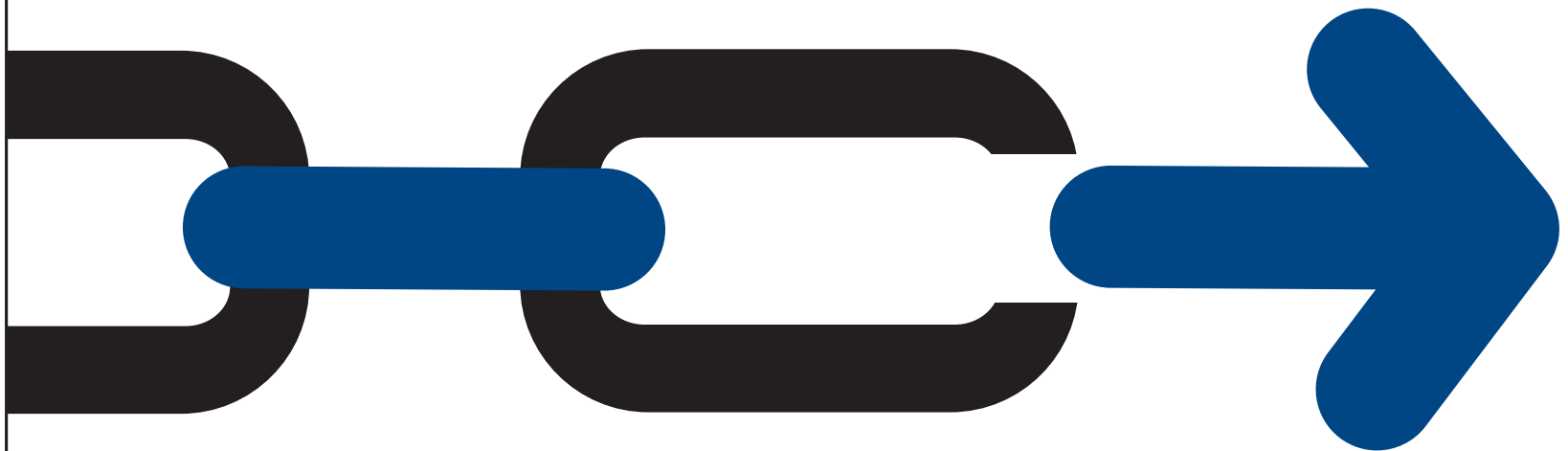


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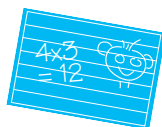
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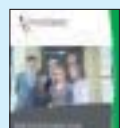
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BREAK TIME

Pack to the future

A COMPANY set up by pupils from Dover Grammar School for Boys has launched a healthy lifestyle pack.



Unico Empresa, made up of year 12 pupils Josh Baker, Danielle Pressnel, Emily Hunnisett, Will Trafford, Conor Falluto and Emily Fox, all 17, will distribute the pack to primary schools. Part of the Young Enterprise South East scheme, the aim is to bring healthy living into primary schools through activities, cooking ideas and staying fit. For more information, visit www.unicoempresa.co.uk.

Head's marathon effort

THE executive head-teacher of the newly-formed Dover Catholic Federation of Schools ran the Flora London Marathon in aid of Children with Leukaemia.

Chris Atkin ran in honour of pupil Jake Owen, who lost his battle with the disease last year. Mr Atkin hopes to raise £2,000 for the charity.

Olympic Odyssey earns gold

■ BY MARIJKE COX

TWO members of staff at South Kent College have been commended for their work in developing a scheme to help improve information literacy skills.

Chris Allen and Katie Butler scooped the Learning Support Award at the first South East Hi5 eLearning Awards in London after creating a tutorial session encouraging students to use the internet for research.

They devised an initiative called Olympic Odyssey, where students from Dover, Folkestone and Ashford had to come up with ideas for Team GB.

More than 100 learners from almost every subject took part in the lessons.

Paul North, learning resources manager, nominated the pair for the prize.

He said: "It is thoroughly deserved for the work they put into creating an innovative and stimulating learning project. It is also recognition for the work that the whole learning resources team does across the college."



WELL DONE: Chris Allen (left) and Katie Butler of SKC receive their award from Sir David Melville

The South East Hi5 eLearning Awards is a regional initiative started in 2008 with the aim of promoting e-learning in higher education, further education, adult and community learning and specialist colleges.

Submissions are based on five categories: innovation, assessment, technical infrastructure, learning support and widening participation. South Kent College principal Monica Box said she was delighted with the announcement that two members of her team had excelled in the new South East programme.

"This is an outstanding achievement," she said. "Our learners enjoy and benefit from Chris and Katie's work and it's lovely to see that it has gained significant external recognition, too."

Ms Allen and Ms Butler were both surprised to learn they had won an award, which was presented to them by Sir David Melville, former vice-chancellor of the University of Kent.

Ms Butler said: "We were sitting at a table and when we didn't get the runners-up place I thought that was it. I was turning to Chris to say something when they read our names out."

"I was open-mouthed with surprise."

Ms Allen joked: "It's the first time I've ever seen Katie speechless."

"All the feedback for what we did was really good, so it was great to be recognised for our achievement."

For more information about South Kent College, visit www.southkent.ac.uk.

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The prize includes one night's accommodation with breakfast for two people. As well as use of the leisure facilities you will also have the chance to enjoy two spa treatments per person, a choice of a luxurious massage, facial and manicure.

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yourmidweekblogger

Preconceived opinions are not always right – just ask one Star Trek fan

Trekkie stereotypes help make the world go round

STEREOTYPES are a wonderful thing. They allow us to pigeonhole people in a quite remarkable way.

Whole nations can be referred to in a way which either acknowledges their strengths or, more often than not, underlines our own latent xenophobia.

Religious followers can find themselves all lumped together in a gloriously unfair description. And, however good you are in business, your position or occupation will mean most of us have some preconceived notions about you before you have uttered a word.

All opinions we form by stereotype rather than experience. And we all fall victim to the sweeping generalisations – some more than others – and always to varying degrees.

The vast majority are unfair. After all, most of them are just plain mean. But not all. Oh no. Some stereotypes are just plain fact. And when you see the persons to which they refer

you will go away thinking 'cripes, they really WERE just like people warned me'.

The perfect example of this is the Trekkie. The die-hard Star Trek fan, who will immediately tell you they are actually a 'Trekker'. And with a new movie hitting the big screens this month they were out in force in London last week to cheer on their heroes at the premiere.

Now the stereotype would be of geeky-looking people – a cunning blend of still-living-with-your-parents-haircuts, acne, home-made props, stick-on Spock ears and life-long difficulty relating to the opposite sex.

And, sure enough, the gaggle of Spock-ear wearing, bad hair, awkward looking folk stood outside whatever cinema it was at Leicester Square proved there was a reason stereotypes are something not worth entirely dismissing.

Star Trek is a bizarre obsession for many but has all the key ingredients to generate the form of super fandom which takes people down the dubious path of obsession; its science fiction (which always attracts the fanatic),

there have been outings on the big and small screen, spin-offs a-plenty, and enough merchandise to fill a small country.

But surely it has become such a joke to be a Trekkie that you'd think the real hardcore would realise people were laughing at – and crucially not with – them. You'd think they would make an effort to prove being a Star Trek fan didn't mean having a life-long aversion to basic levels of hygiene and even a nodding acquaintance with fashion. You'd think they'd want to smash the stereotype.

The only conclusion I can draw from this is that they actually enjoy the sense of belonging fulfilling the Trekkie stereotype brings with it.

And, after all, where would be the fun if they shattered that particular stereotype?

Beam me up, Scotty.

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Let's do it

Folkestone's alternative festival is Hevy



HEADLINE: Feeder will perform at the old Rotunda

FEEDER, Ash and Gary Numan will be among the headline acts descending on Folkestone seafront this summer for the launch of a new music festival.

The old Rotunda amusement park at the foot of the cliffs will be the site of the Hevy Music Festival on Saturday, August 1, which will also feature a string of other indie-rock bands including Hundred Reasons, Kids In Glass Houses, Attack! Attack!, Sonic Boom Six

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

and In Case Of Fire.

The newest arrival to Kent's growing festival scene comes in the wake of the postponement last month of Red List Live at Port Lympne, due to increasing competition and the effects of the recession.

Promoter James Dutton said: "There are many fantastic new festivals being developed in Kent this year.

"To try to create something a bit different,

and cater for a market that we felt could do with some attention, we're developing this as an alternative music festival.

"We're unbelievably excited to be bringing these huge names to Folkestone, but our aim has always been to develop the local music scene and support the wealth of talent Kent has to offer.

He said preparations had been ongoing for the past six months and they were "keeping things simple" for their first year by sticking to a one-day event.

"We're hoping to develop the event next year, with more bands on more stages, possibly over a number of days," said Mr Dutton.

"We're now on the hunt for Kent's greatest bands to play the festival's second stage and they can get in touch via our website."

The company behind the festival, Hevy, has been involved in Folkestone before in bringing the likes of the Holloways and Turin Brakes to the Leas Cliff Hall.

The announcement comes as the music and arts scene in Shepway continues to thrive, with the opening of Folkestone's latest live venue Quarterhouse already attracting top jazz players and stand-up acts.

Tickets for the Hevy Festival are priced at £48 and are on sale now at www.hevy.co.uk and from the Leas Cliff Hall box office.

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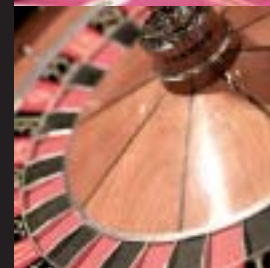
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TALK TIME

STEWART DIMMOCK

Stewart Dimmock is the secretary of the George Cross for Dover Campaign. He gives us his views on the area.



Who or what brought you to Dover?

I was born in Buckland Hospital, my family moved to the area from the Midlands in the 1950s.

What's your favourite thing about the area?

The district has so much history, more than 3,000 years' worth, and we are close to the countryside, where I can indulge my interest of fauna and flora.

If you could change one thing about Dover, what would it be?

This would have to be the Dover apathy... we keep being promised everything and getting nothing.

Can you tell me about the George Cross for Dover campaign and what it involves?

There are three main aims to the campaign. Firstly, working towards winning the medal that the town so rightly deserves, as first discussed in the 1940s, and trying to get a memorial park to the civilians who lost their lives during the war while keeping the town alive. The people of Dover were given the remains of St James's Church as a memorial, but we would now like to see this turned into a memorial garden. Thirdly, to promote and publicise Dover as a heroic historical town, not just during wartime but throughout the whole of the town's history. Anyone interested in the campaign can check out our website at www.thegeorgecrossfordover.org.uk.

YOUR LETTERS

Goodbye... now for that £3,600 please

At last, Linda and John Oliver are no longer councillors in Hythe West and Shepway.

We have heard their lame excuses for not attending meetings, claiming that living almost 200 miles away didn't really matter that much.

The real tragedy is that we witnessed Conservatives on the district council remove Cllr Linda Oliver from all her committees so she didn't need to travel the 200 miles to attend.

On Hythe Town Council, councillors didn't complain too loudly about the regular absences of both Linda and John Oliver, although their empty seats made a mockery of having a 'full' council meeting.

Indeed, these councillors' names were omitted from the surgery rota.

Even a face-to-face surgery meeting, held every few months or so, was too much to expect from these two representatives.

The Conservative website quoted that the Olivers, because they had moved, would resign in the new year – err, that was for 2008!

Clearly the organisation itself is incapable of telling the truth.

It's about time the people of Hythe West were properly represented and I have informed the returning officer at Shepway council that people of Hythe West have signed the necessary forms requesting an election to replace these absent councillors.

I wonder but hold little hope,

alas, if Linda Oliver will have just an ounce of honour and return to Shepway her councillor's allowance (£3,600-plus per year) that I believe she continued to receive while residing in Bath.

Neil Matthews

Liberal Democrat campaigner for Hythe

Creative survival is mosaic of support

I was delighted to read the recent front-page article telling everyone about the wonderful mosaics that Jo Letchford has been commissioned to brighten up The Old High Street in Folkestone.

She has created a beautiful floor for the entrance to my shop, Quake – also on The Old High Street – and her skill and attention to detail complement the quality of our range of handmade handbags.

Those who live in Folkestone who haven't visited The Old High Street recently should take a look – this is a unique area which attracts skilled craftspeople and artists.

It's not just bricks and mortar that regenerate an area, it's the ideas and energy of the people trading in the Creative Quarter that are key to its success.

Our customers understand that we only grow if people not only admire our shop windows but come in and buy our products.

If you want thriving, interesting shops, then you have to support them.

Our commitment to the area has led to us developing our own range of fabric and felt handbags that we make on the premises.

We are now in the process of recruiting part-time machinists

and we hope eventually to build trade to the point where we can employ five to 10 people – a small but encouraging sign that regenerating an area eventually provides jobs for local people.

Rachel Jones, Quake Folkestone
www.quakefolkestone.co.uk

Clarity needed on lift fund-raising

In reply to Bob Moulard regarding the step-lift carriage issue: while the carriage is clearly linked to the Leas lift, people have apparently been donating to the fund thinking that the money collected is for the upkeep of the whole site, not just the old carriage. This is why much better clarity is needed.

Ray Duff
Folkestone

Gurkha decision shames this land

After hearing the latest news about the Gurkhas' plight, I am ashamed to be a British citizen.

What is the Government thinking of when it closes its doors on a nationality that has given its all to support and defend this country in its hour of need in conflicts throughout the world, as the Gurkhas have done?

I had an uncle who served with them during the Second World War and he told me they were the finest bunch of men anyone could serve with.

Can somebody in this crazy world please get in touch with me and explain what idiot came to the conclusion that they have

no regard to accepting these kind, courageous people in our midst?

This at a time when boatloads of immigrants are allowed into this country from anywhere in the world, some of whom want to blow off our heads as soon as possible.

I do hope we can arrive at some sense on this issue and return to when people like myself were proud to be English.

Mr P Graham (ex-serviceman OAP)
via email

Our town is full of future stage stars

Having seen a poster for Dover Youth Theatre's show, The Boy Who Fell Into a Book, which was excellent, I decided to come over to Dover once again to see From Classic to Contemporary West End and Broadway.

It was hard to believe that the talented youngsters who took part in the show only had five days to learn their lines and rehearse for their performance – they were so polished and professional!

The opening and closing numbers, Comedy Tonight and Rhythm of Life, were well chosen – the first put the audience in the mood for a great evening's entertainment and the latter had everyone singing and clapping along at the end.

Highlights for me included the male members of the cast's There Is Nothing Like a Dame.

This is such a well-known piece that it's difficult not to compare with the original, but the boys did themselves proud.

Still with the boys, Why, 'Cause I'm a Guy was hilarious and the four lads who sang it – Luke



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Breen, Steve Harwood-Brown, Theo McMenamin and Ben Steele – were absolutely the epitome of a set of “football-lovin’, ‘meat-eatin’, jock-itchin’, channel-flippin’, belchin’, burpin’, scratchin’, snoring” guys. Classic!

Ben Steele’s solo number, I Love the Girl I’m Near, following straight on from his performance as Billy Liar, was delivered with confidence and humour and every inch the womanising lothario he was playing.

I remembered him from The Boy Who Fell into a Book and think he is definitely one of Dover’s future stars.

Your Timeless To Me from Hairspray was fantastic – Luke Breen as Wilbir was excellent, but he was upstaged by Theo McMenamin as Edna.

Most lads of his age and size would not be willing to don a long red dress and bright pink wig – but he did, and carried the scene in classic comedic style. Another star in the making.

Of the girls’ numbers, the best moments were Georgia Graham and Charlotte McPhail’s haunting rendition of Some Things Are Meant To Be. It was a tear-jerkingly beautiful and surprisingly mature presentation from these two youngsters.

Georgia’s solo number To Keep My Love Alive was delivered with much self-assurance and wit – a very funny piece about a woman who murders her husbands to keep things fresh, and she managed to carry it off stylishly.

Megan Stevenson was fantastic as Mrs Lovett singing By The Sea from

Sweeney Todd. What a rich and powerful, yet beautiful, voice she has – yet another star of the future, without a doubt.

The girls’ presentation of Anything Goes was flawless and contained some dazzling tap-dancing from five of them, in particular.

Another number everyone knows and compares with the original, but the girls did it justice.

All in all, a wonderful show, and directors Marie Kelly-Thomas, Michael Thomas and Andrew Freisner certainly mined a rich vein of talent from these 25 youngsters.

Dover should be very proud to have such gifted and artistic young people to entertain them.

Rob Green
Folkestone

City should put brake on its parking costs

I have to ask: why does Canterbury City Council have to be so greedy regarding vehicle parking? Even the handful of spaces near the prison and further up the hill have been made pay zones.

Other parking areas have had their times extensively increased.

If bank holiday parking was free, they wouldn’t have to pay wardens extra (or time off in lieu), while a park-and-ride is not practical for all.

This council actively discourages local and more distant motorists. Perhaps this is deliberate because there are too many visitors.

In my opinion this money-grabbing outfit has more money than good and ought to consider the hard-pressed motorist (humans and their families) just for a change. I say shame on Canterbury City Council.

At least Deal is considering a fairer deal at long last.

David Kane
Deal

Great read keeps me coming back for more

As a frequent visitor to Kent, I cannot wait to read KOS Media’s excellent free newspapers. I have just found the latest addition, Yourdeal, and what a great deal!

I also enjoy Yourdover and Yourshepway, both full of interesting, local news and controversial matters such as car-parking charges, closure of public toilets, port privatisation, empty shops, not to mention councillors’ and MPs’ expenses.

Yes indeed, just like home in Bromley!

However, the people of Kent live and work in the Garden of England and improved transport links, not to mention leisure parks and art galleries, make it a county to visit again and again and eventually I hope to live in a town on the magical Kent coast.

Thank you KOS Media for doing Kent proud, keep up the good work.

John Gamet
Bromley

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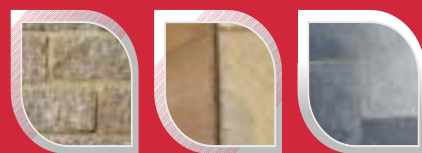


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IF YOU'RE bored of gimmicky city centre restaurants, and want a taste of excellent cuisine in the heart of the countryside, then book a table at Martin's.

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What Martin's has done for 21 years now, is combine every element on the diners' checklist, and packaged it in an approachable, affordable and enjoyable evening out.

The restaurant – which is one of the longest-running in Kent (and with good reason) has a modern interior with that classic countryside feel we love about Boughton. Gone are the hops, in are classic Parisian black and white portraits, and images that reflect the sophisticated yet friendly atmosphere the team strives to create each and every evening.

Also in is a fresh new menu, with some old favourites – the famous Crab, Avocado and Cheese starter – and some new dishes, from Mediterranean Feta and Rocket Salad or Sweet Chilli Prawns, to Oregano Swordfish Steak – while Paul's famous steaks remain as expertly prepared. All meals are freshly prepared on the night too, using the finest ingredients, locally-sourced where possible. So whether it's a romantic

meal for two, a birthday party, wedding reception, or any other excuse – Martin's guarantees the elegance of London, in the heart of the garden of England.

See the monthly set menu or à la carte menu, see www.martinsrestaurant.co.uk.

Open Tuesday to Saturday evenings and Sunday lunches. Opening Times: 7pm, last orders 10pm (Sunday lunch: 12pm, last orders 2pm).

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Spice up your life with a visit to the Little Raj

■ Little Raj

LITTLE Raj is one of the top names when it comes to quality food in the Ashford area and beyond.

Specialising in dishes from Bangladesh the restaurant earned a Five Star food hygiene award from Ashford Borough Council in 2007 and has also been on the receiving end of numerous other awards recognising the quality of the produce that it has on offer.

In business for almost 10 years the eaterie has gained a reputation as one of the best of its kind around with a loyal client base which is ever expanding as more and more people get to hear about the quality of food served by extremely knowledgeable staff in friendly and relaxed surroundings.

Manager Harunar Rashid said: "We specialise in food from the Indian sub-continent which is always served by friendly staff who can be relied on to help diners get the best out of the menu by saying which dishes espe-

cially complement which others.

"It is handily placed in the centre of a booming town which is very handy for London and has especially good rail and road transport links with everywhere across the south east.

"The town itself has seen steady growth in recent years and is becoming one of the most popular to locate to for both homeowners and businesses.

"We have established ourselves as one of the top restaurants in the area and a warm welcome always awaits diners who come and sample what we have to offer."

The restaurant is open from 12 noon until 2pm for lunch each day and dinner is served from 6pm until 11pm.

"The staff we have here know that it is their job to make each meal an experience for diners, whether they come in on their own, with a partner or as part of a larger group of family or friends," said Harunar.

Little Raj, 20 North Street, Ashford, TN24 8JR 01233 626373 or 01233 638564.

CHEF RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Walnut Tree

Start with deep-fried battered king prawns with a sweet thai chilli sauce followed by Sunday Roast with a choice of five meats, Beef, Pork, Turkey, Lamb or Gammon all served with fresh vegetables, roast potatoes and Yorkshire pudding. And finally freshly made Banoffee pie. Telephone 01233 720298.

Rose & Crown

Tomato, Basil and Mozzarella salad followed by Surf & Turf – an 8-10oz sirloin, cooked to your liking with shell-on king prawns, salad, mushrooms, onion rings and fries. Chocolate and hazelnut pavlova, a melt in the mouth chocolateolics dream. Telephone: 01227 709265.

George at Lydd

Smoked haddock, leek and spinach risotto followed by Italian chicken with mixed pepper, honey and balsamic served on a bed of tagliatelle, is pure delight. Follow with Raspberry swirl Raspberry Brulee with mousse – delicious!. Telephone: 01797 321710.

Martins

Garlic button mushrooms topped with stilton. Fillet Dijonaise – Fillet steak with a Dijon mustard and cream sauce served with fresh vegetables and potatoes. To finish with home made Tiramisu. Martins Restaurant, 40, The Street, Boughton, Nr Canterbury. Telephone: 01227 750304.

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It's just a silly phase they're going through

10cc are not in love, they're just on a 94-date tour

FOR almost 40 years, 10cc has been entertaining audiences all over the world with its music.

The band became a real chart force during the 70s, releasing hits that still receive frequent airplay today, such as Dreadlock Holiday and the perennial favourite I'm Not In Love. Thanks to the enduring popularity of their songs and the ready availability of their music on the internet, 10cc is continuing to win new fans and has never really been off the road.

Frontman Graham Gouldman is a gifted songwriter who developed a love of music when he was just a small child. Just as he was beginning to listen to the radio, the airwaves were carrying the new sounds of skiffle and rock'n'roll and Gouldman still feels the influence of artists like the Beatles today.

He played in a number of bands in the Manchester area from the early 60s onwards and wrote his first top 10 hit, For Your Love, at the age of just 19. However, he did not get to step into the limelight just yet – the

10CC

Various venues,
various dates



song was actually recorded by the Yardbirds. At that time Gouldman was a member of the Mockingbirds, which had landed a regular spot as a warm-up act for Top of the Pops. So Gouldman had to stand by and watch the audience go wild for the Yardbirds when they came on to sing his song.

By the time he formed 10cc in 1970 with singer-guitarist Eric Stewart and multi-instrumentalists Kevin Godley and Lol Creme, Gouldman had also written hits for the Hollies, Herman's Hermits and Jeff Beck. The band started out as a session group called Hotlegs and enjoyed a surprise hit with Neanderthal Man, before signing to Jonathan King's UK Records label and changing their name to 10cc, inspired by a male bodily function.

The follow-up, Rubber Bullets, topped the chart and really launched 10cc as a pop force to be reckoned

with, though success in the US was elusive until 1975 when unconventional ballad I'm Not In Love went to number two in the American charts.

Following the departure of Godley and Creme in 1976, Gouldman and Stewart carried on as a duo until 1984. Gouldman then teamed up with Andrew Gold to form Wax, their most memorable hit being Bridge To Your Heart, and 10cc members reunited in the early 90s to record the album Meanwhile...

Now the band is in the middle of a mammoth 94-date tour, encompassing five countries, and Kent fans will have the chance to see them perform when they visit the county in May.

The current line-up, led by Gouldman, comprises lead guitarist Rick Fenn, drummer Paul Burgess, Mick Wilson on percussion and guitar and Mike Stevens on keyboards, guitar and saxophone.

10cc will be performing at the Central Theatre in Chatham on Saturday; the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, on Friday, May 8, and the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday, May 21.



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TIME TRAVELLERS GO... SECRETS AND SPIES

Saturday to Monday, May 2-4
Dover Castle

CHILDREN can enjoy a bank holiday weekend of espionage with Dover Castle's top secret event.

Time Travellers Go... Secrets and Spies is a chance for all aspiring sleuths to learn new detective skills and improve their spying abilities. Young investigators can create a new identity with wacky wigs and monstrous moustaches in order to fool their families and friends.

They can also discover how real spies hid secret information from their enemies when carrying out their thrilling missions. Just like the ingenious Q in the



James Bond films, the fledgling detectives can learn how to create their own gadgets.

All children are welcome to join the Time Travellers Go... events, for an extra charge of £1 in addition to standard admission. This charge applies to both English Heritage members and non-

members. The event will run from 10am to 5pm each day.

Admission costs £10/£8 for adults, £5 for children, £25 for families and is free for English Heritage members.

For more information, call 01304 211067, or visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/dovercastle.

TCHAIKOVSKY GALA EVENING

Thursday, May 7

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



PREPARE to be swept away by a magical evening of music and dance, courtesy of the Vienna Festival Ballet.

The Tchaikovsky Gala Evening will feature highlights from the composer's much loved-ballets, including Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake and The Nutcracker. The specially-produced show celebrates Tchaikovsky's music and the beauty of ballet in one entertaining production.

Princess Aurora dances with four princes to choose a husband in the Rose Adage from Sleeping Beauty and there will be more romance in the famous second scene from Swan Lake, in which Prince Siegfried falls in love with Odette. The audience will be treated to the Black Swan Pas de Deux, also from Swan Lake.

Children from Julia's Dance School will join world-class dancers to perform two pieces from The Nutcracker – the Chinese Dance and the Russian Trepak. There will also be a performance of the Merlito Dance and a few surprises during this gala evening.

The performance starts at 7pm and tickets are £10.50 to £21.50. To book, call 0844 8471776, or see www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



ROB BRYDON

Wednesday, May 6

Winter Gardens, Margate



VERSATILE comic actor Rob Brydon will be showing off his stand-up skills in Thanet next week.

The Gavin & Stacey star has become a mainstay of great British comedy since he first came to the public's attention in 2000 with Marion & Geoff and Human Remains. Both shows won British Comedy Awards and Brydon went on to star in a number of hit comedies, films and radio shows.

Born in Swansea in 1965, Brydon studied acting at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama before joining BBC Wales as a radio and television presenter. With his versatile voice, he soon found work as a voiceover artist after moving to London and began to



appear in television shows such as Barbara, The Healer and Lord of Misrule.

His big screen career has included roles in First Knight, Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels and Martha, Meet Frank, Daniel and Laurence. But he is best-known for his hilarious

and sometimes poignant turns in Marion & Geoff, Human Remains and Gavin & Stacey.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £18.50.

To book, see www.margatewintergardens.co.uk, or call the box office on 01843 292795/296111.

DOVER LEISURE

Brass band to give free bank holiday concert

CELEBRATE the bank holiday weekend with a free concert at Deal Bandstand.

The Betteshanger Brass Band will be performing at the Bandstand from 2.30pm to 4.30pm on Sunday. The band was formed in 1932 by miner George Gibb and his colleagues, who were looking for a way to relax after a hard shift.

Find out more about the band at www.betteshanger.org.

Drive over to race track for a good performance

CAR enthusiasts will be in heaven at the BHP Performance Show on bank holiday Monday.

Lydden Hill Race Circuit hosts the event which features an array of attractions from live demonstrations to public track time and a trade area from 9am.

Admissions costs £12 and is free for under-12s. For more information see www.bhpperformanceshow.com.

Musician brings a mix of sounds together

ACOUSTIC guitarist and singer Thom Cakebread gives his take on hit indie records at The Park Inn.

Cakebread plays songs from the genres of acoustic, indie and alternative music, playing hits by a variety of artists, see www.myspace.com/thomcakebread.

He will be at the pub in Park Place, Dover, on Monday. For more details about the gig, call 01304 203300.

Heroes pay tribute to a variety of great bands

LEADING tribute band Heroes will be celebrating the best of new wave, mod and ska music this week.

The band plays hits by the likes of The Jam, The Clash, Blondie, Billy Idol and more. They will be at The Archer in Sandwich Road, Whitfield, on Friday.

For more about the band see www.heroesnew.com. Call 01304 825890 for more details about the venue.

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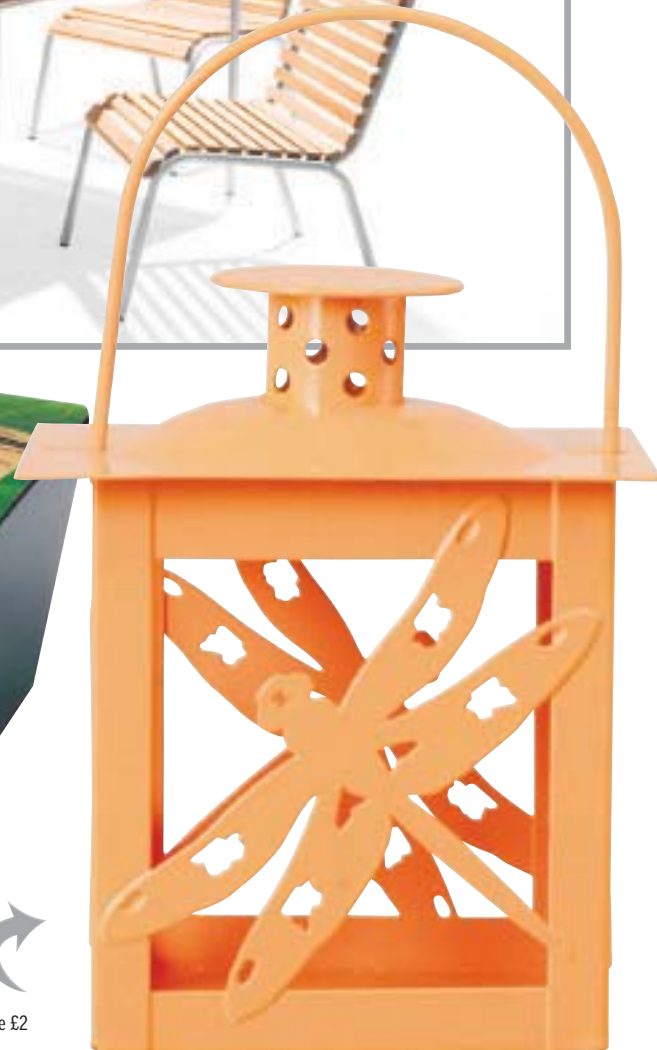


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IN STORE

Topshop's flashback to the 60s for the summer

THE founder of popular 60s store Biba has launched a new range of clothing at Topshop.

Barbara Hulanicki began her career as a freelance fashion illustrator for major publications including British Vogue before starting up the store on Kensington High Street, London. Biba's doors closed in 1976, but shoppers can now have the chance to see more of her designs at selected Topshop stores and online. See www.topshop.com.

Discounts won't take a bite out of your pocket

CULT vampire series Twilight is available at WHSmith with up to 60 per cent off. Followers of the books by Stephenie Meyer can pick up her debut novel Twilight for £3.49, Eclipse for £3.77 and New Moon for £3.77 instead of the RRP of £6.99.

The Host is also available for £7.67 instead of the RRP of £11.99. For more information or to pick up copies of the books visit your nearest store in Dover or Deal, or go online at www.whsmith.co.uk.

Small prices for tall girls at New Look sale

TALL girls can take less steps than the rest of us to New Look's latest sale.

Leopard print leggings are down from £14 to £6 in standard look or shiny black styles. Ora ribbed fluffy batwing jumper in gunmetal grey colour, it's especially designed to fit those who are 5ft 7ins in height and is now £9 down from £20.

A scoop-neck black and white feather print tunic, in black and white, is now £10 down from £16. Venture to New Look in Dover or Deal, or see www.newlook.co.uk.

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MONSTERS VS ALIENS (PG)



When Susan Murphy (Reese Witherspoon) grows to 49ft 11in, she is taken to a secret government compound that houses a selection of monsters who are called upon to save the world.

It's a funny road making it in Hollywood for Anna

■ BY ELLIE GENOWER

ANNA Faris may be fast becoming famous as one of the funniest ladies in Hollywood, but the bubbly blonde actress says she wasn't always known for her comic touch.

"I had been in local theatres – all dramatic and never thought of myself as a comedian in any form," she says of her early acting experiences. "In fact nobody did – nobody thought I was funny at all."

So it's funny now that Anna, who stars alongside Seth Rogen in the new dark comedy *Observe And Report*, is bucking the current trend towards male-heavy 'bromances' or buddy movies.

"There's an audience for female-driven comedy and I'm hoping to produce and create some more stuff," the 32-year-old says.

"It's fun to play with the boys a little bit in *Observe And Report* though."

Observe And Report sees Anna play a department store make-up girl who is the object of security guard Ronnie's infatuation. Ronnie, a delusional and misguided dreamer played by Seth Rogen, spends much of the film trying to catch the mall's elusive pervert.

At the same time, he tries his best to join the police force and woo Brandi, the woman of his dreams, who he doesn't realise is actually a rather mean, selfish character.

"I was really happy, because it's very rare that you come across a character that's so offensive and awful. It's like taking a bite of a juicy apple, but naughty," Anna says.

"It's really fun for me to play a character that makes no apologies for herself. She's definitely the worst character I've ever played. She's selfish, rude, catty, bitchy, dopey and tacky."

But *Observe And Report* isn't just your aver-



BUBBLY: Anna Faris stars in *Observe and Report*

age Hollywood comedy. Its plot takes humour to some pretty dark places and Anna confesses she has a few worries about her parents watching a particularly drunken love scene between Brandi and Ronnie.

"I told them they needed to drink a bunch of wine, at least three bottles, before seeing the movie so maybe they would pass out before they got to the love making scenarios!" she says.

However, the tougher scenes were made easier by her "awesome" co-star Seth Rogen.

Seth returns the compliment, describing Anna's performance in *Observe And Report* as

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"the type of performance I don't think a lot of women would do".

It's all a long way from Anna's roots in Seattle where she grew up with "pretty conservative" parents. She cut her acting chops on small productions before landing a part in the first *Scary Movie*. Subsequent memorable roles in the likes of *Friends* and *Lost In Translation* led to the lead role in *House Bunny*, which she also produced.

But despite the call of stardom, she has managed to keep much of her personal life out of the tabloids, largely staying off the paparazzi radar. "I lead such a boring life," she says.

"Nobody pays attention. If somebody does take my picture, I'm eating a burrito in my sweats and my mouth is open. I'm kind of a disgusting, boring person."

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It's fun and laughter away at sea

BY MICHAEL O'FLAHERTY

YOU'RE joking! That was my reaction when I was invited to learn the art of cracking jokes on a comedy cruise sailing from Nice to Menorca in the Mediterranean.

And so I found myself on-stage aboard the good ship Island Star, trying to make 350 people laugh.

To say I was terrified would be the understatement of the decade.

Earlier in the day, for the cost of a fiver, I had taken a comedy 'master class' with instructor Miles Crawford, from the comedy group Jongleurs.

Before I braved the spotlight, Miles told me how to engage the audience, how to present myself and my material... and, above all, delivery.

So, in trembling tones, I delivered my short joke: "I was driving in Ireland from Cork to Donegal. I was very tired and stopped at a small hotel. I knocked on the door. A yawning night-porter came to the door."

"I asked if he had a room. 'No trouble at all,' he said. 'You wouldn't happen to have a room with a bath?' I asked. 'That's no trouble either,' said the porter."

"He pulled down a key and said 'You're in room number seven, sir... and the room with the bath is at the end of the corridor.'"

Laughter, applause! I was made! I introduced the next act and exited left.

I had flown to Pisa to join the Island Star in the middle of a Mediterranean cruise. Formerly called Horizon, with 10 decks and 753 comfortable cabins for 1,875 passengers tended by 573 crew, this impressive ship will be joining the Celebrity Cruises fleet during 2009.



JOKES AHoy: Onboard the comedy cruise ship Island Star, travelling from Nice to Menorca in the Mediterranean

It follows the merger of First Choice with Thomson within the TUI travel giant.

The Island brand stands for casual cruising, with a slogan of "relaxed, informal and friendly".

Guided bike tours are another innovation. Some of my fellow passengers had survived a bike ride into Rome through its snarling, chaotic traffic. They were therefore well equipped for the relatively calm bike tour I took after we docked in the beautiful port of Mahon in Menorca.

We set off on well-equipped mountain bikes with what seemed like dozens of gears. I struggled up the first hill and enjoyed a quiet ride out into the country.

Our ultimate goal, after more muscle-aching hills, was the beautiful beach of Binibeca, where I had a swim and bewailed my increasing saddle-soreness, and finally made it back to the ship exhausted after a 24-mile ride.

At dinner I was recognised by some of the

passengers – the result of the comedy night. I was a celebrity! Then I saw they were laughing again – at my bandy-legged, saddle-sore walk.

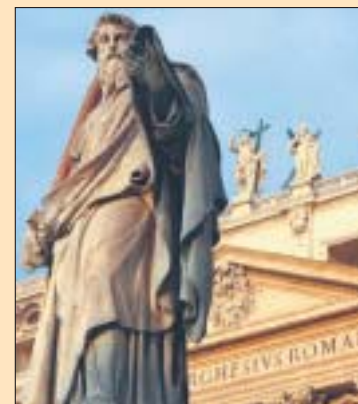
That night I enjoyed a gourmet dinner in the elegant Oasis restaurant. There are also seven bars, ranging from The Pub, which is as its name sounds, to the quieter, wood-panelled Captain's Club.

The Oasis is the only restaurant on the ship where people dress for dinner and costs extra, as did the slightly less formal Steak House; the other restaurants are free.

And what of my fellow passengers? Relaxed, friendly and informal, as indicated by the slogan of the ship.

If any of us had wished to get married on board, it would have been no problem at all – nor would special anniversary and birthday celebrations... even a renewal of wedding vows. But I was happy to stick to the jokes.

FACT FILE: MEDITERRANEAN



WHEN IN ROME: Enjoy a day in this fascinating city

Travel Facts

- Michael O'Flaherty was a guest of Island Cruises, which offers seven-night Western Mediterranean fly-cruises out of Palma, Majorca, from March 31, 2009, from £649, calling at Olbia (Sardinia), Civitavecchia (Rome), Livorno (Florence/Pisa), Villefranche (France) and Mahon (Menorca). Price is based on two adults sharing inside cabin on Aqua deck and includes return flights and transfers.

- Guided bike tours cost £29, except a full day in Rome, which is £49.

- Although Michael O'Flaherty's comedy master class with Jongleurs cost only £5, it sadly won't be available in 2009 – although Island Escape will carry professional comedians to entertain passengers through summer 2009.

- Island Escape enquiries: 0127 362 7843 and www.islandcruises.com.

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At the end of the cruise we disembark after breakfast in Marseilles and take the TGV to Lille or Paris where we join the Eurostar to St Pancras, London, arriving early-to-mid evening.

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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE SPEAKER
BBC Two, 8pm, Wednesday
KATIE AND PETER: THE NEXT CHAPTER STATESIDE
ITV 2, 9pm, Thursday

IT'S been a showcase for the most annoying young people in the country to talk their way into everyone's bad books, so it is probably for the best that The Speaker is coming to an end.

There have been a few good performers, but by and large this has been a bit pointless and it's hard to imagine that anyone out there has really been enthralled by the search – especially as so many of the more interesting contestants were given their cards early on.

In tonight's final the last three young orators meet up with Obi Wan Kenobi, or Ewan McGregor as he's more commonly known in a galaxy closer to home.

The actor travels to Malawi with them to look at children's rights, which is bad news for him as he'll be stuck in another country with the gobby, opinionated little tykes.

On their return to Blighty they will let their tenses loose once again to see who can deliver some kind of mesmerising piece of speech to judges comic Jo Brand, ex-basketballer John Amaechi and Jeremy Stockwell – you know, the huvvie with the beret.

Expect mentors Alastair Campbell, Deborah Meaden, Earl Spencer and Kate Silverton to offer a few last pearls of wisdom – you'd hope some of which might actually just be “shhhhhhhhh”.

So who will claim the title of Britain's best young speaker and, furthermore, will anyone even care?

Taking boredom to new levels are orange Peter Andre and the even orange Katie Price, who are currently



TALK IS CHEAP: Jeremy Stockwell, Jo Brand and John Amaechi, the judges on The Speaker

starring in their umpteenth own reality show. It's interesting only if to see what is happening to Jordan's – sorry, Katie's – face.

Her mug is starting to veer into Leslie Ash territory with a 'trout pout' that is verging on the utterly ridiculous.

It's the only interesting thing here. Whether it's Peter having trouble with the barbecue, or the couple quarrelling about the decorating, no subject seems too banal for inclusion.

Maybe the next series will be called Katie And Peter Walk The Dogs or Katie And Peter Get Root Canal.

Every moment is memorex'd with no miniscule or pointless exchange too stupid from which to escape.

It really makes you wonder if this was the good stuff, what was left on the cutting-room floor?

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

MAKING your home more comfortable should be your first priority. Usually you don't place much emphasis on material goods, but taking the time to decorate your place with comfy furnishings, attractive artwork and delectable food helps your escapist side.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

UPDATING your look will give you a new lease on life. Spend some time looking through magazines for a new hairstyle. Alternately, you might want to add some fashionable items to your wardrobe. Take care to choose colours and cuts that look good on you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

TAKING charge of your life is essential. Lately, you've been giving a loved one too much control over your decisions. Asserting your authority could put a temporary strain on your relationship, but don't worry. The old affection that first drew you together will resurface.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

A NEW affinity is possible with a business or romantic partner. The two of you need to be more honest in your communications in order to avoid the misunderstandings that pushed you apart in the past. Signing a contract or entering into a commercial alliance is also possible.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

THIS promises to be a very busy week for you. If you're going to maintain your sanity, you need to draw some strict boundaries. Above all, devote a few minutes each day to your own amusement. A few simple measures like these helps you to meet all of your varied obligations.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

PAY careful attention to your dreams – they are trying to tell you something. Devoting more time to spiritual pursuits is essential to your happiness. If that means slowing down your social life, so be it. It's hard to think when you are always surrounded by people.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

DEVOTING more time to intellectual pursuits will boost your spirits. Lately, you've been bogged down in mundane matters. Focusing on paying your bills and running errands has taken all the joy out of life. Give yourself permission to take an uncharted course.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

THIS is the best time of the year to get a new job. Opportunities in property, food and landscaping are especially viable. If you've been longing to get in shape, launch an exercise regimen. Once you build muscle, you'll shed pounds. Varying your routine is critical to maintaining it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

TURN over a new leaf as far as money is concerned. Getting more value for your hard-earned cash is essential. These days you can do price comparisons very easily. If you can get it for less, do. It's also possible to get a raise so approach your boss with a list of accomplishments.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

SPENDING time with friends will be great. It's been a long time since you were able to let your hair down with people you trust. If you've fallen out of touch with your nearest and dearest make a few phone calls. Your prolonged absence may have hurt some feelings.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

SPARKS may be flying between you and someone close and it could be harder than you think to keep your feelings under control. Paying off a debt could finally become possible, too. By getting your bills out of the way you'll attain the financial freedom you've always desired.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

AT long last you're finally able to relax and unwind. Whether you take a vacation or just devote more time to your favourite activities doesn't matter. The important thing is to put work on the back burner. This can be difficult for a person like you, but give it a try anyway.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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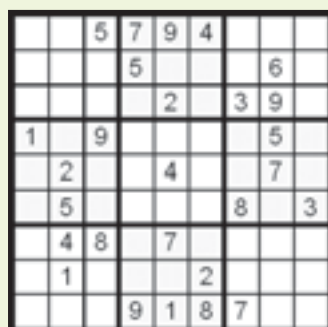
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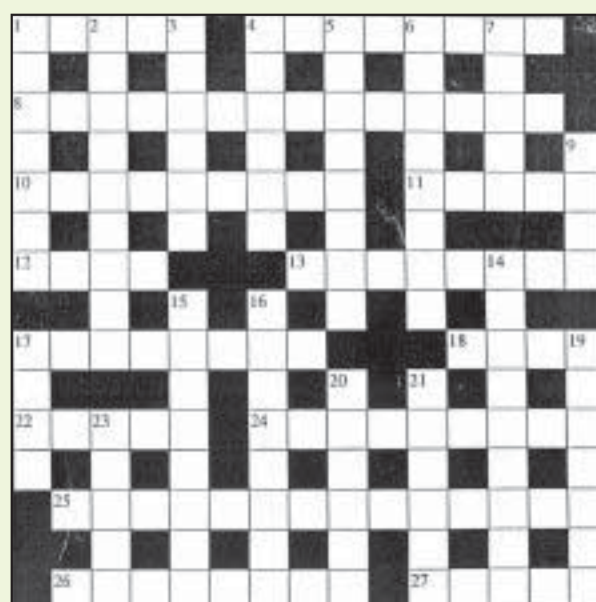
ACROSS

- 1 Animal crossing the road (5)
 4 Whipped Commanding Officer heaved outside (8)
 8 Obstacle one might trip over (9-5)
 10 They may have a main source of income (9)
 11 Part of TV to let off steam? (5)
 12 See inside lower abdomen (4)
 13 Like single chap in unison (2,3,3)
 17 Settling argument which mother finished by taking in ruler! (6,2)
 18 Loud explosive game (4)
 22 Secret store of money reported (5)
 24 Tasty recipe to me so hot (9)
 25 Bruin's wearing glasses? (10,4)
 26 In street and in court had strong natural impulse (8)
 27 Lady's succeeded getting graduate in (5)

DOWN

- 1 Containing plenty of relish or lemon peel, say (7)
 2 New part of Canada or old state of Germany (9)
 3 Walker found frisky lamb expressing reluctance (6)
 4 Throw one medal in during dance (6)
 5 Player gets terrible roasting (8)
 6 Pertinent about part of Middle East (8)
 7 Surpass only half of the excellence (5)
 9 A boy in France from Jane (4)
 14 Gold fish in Mummy's large tomb (9)
 15 Sell cheaper tenderloin (8)
 16 Verse Iraq aunt composed (8)
 17 Spice of authority (4)
 19 Go too far and be swamped? (7)
 20 I enter vacant room (6)
 21 Dark dog (6)
 23 Inca poncho covered bird (5)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Insignia (5)
 4 Unmarried man (8)
 8 Embezzle (14)
 10 Back to ____ (6,3)
 11 Male singer (5)
 12 Obligation (4)
 13 Floor-covering (8)
 17 Gradual disappearance (4-4)
 18 Eyot (4)
 22 Cuttlefish ink (5)
 24 Military capability (9)
 25 Crossword addict (14)
 26 Male falcon (8)
 27 Armed (anag.) (5)

DOWN

- 1 Bewildered (7)
 2 Agitated (9)
 3 Become invalid (6)
 4 Russian wolfhound (6)
 5 Prepare for printing (4-4)
 6 Expulsion (8)
 7 Many times (5)
 9 Topmost edge (4)
 14 Formerly (9)
 15 West Indian islander (8)
 16 Pollenosis (3,5)
 17 Quick (4)
 19 Mistake (7)
 20 Biblical mount (6)
 21 Rising (6)
 23 Windcheater (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No85

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC SOLUTION No84

ACROSS: 1 Medico 4 Vishnu 10 Dramatise or Dramatize 11 Enrol 12 Refresh 13 Not half 14 Acquired taste 16 Consequential 21 Askance 22 Dextral 24 Maize 25 Clutch bag 26 Dreamy 27 Oboist. DOWN: 1 Modern 2 Dwarf 3 Chateau 5 Inertia 6 Herbal tea 7 Uplift 8 High frequency 9 Penny-dreadful 15 Clockwise 17 Sunbeam 18 Taxicab 19 Jammed 20 Blight 23 Rabbi.

QUICK SOLUTION No85

20 Avarat 21 Upward 23 Parka. Jaramican 16 Hay fever 17 Fast 19 Erratum 15 Eviction 7 Offen 9 Brian 14 Firstwhile 6 Disturbed 3 Expire 4 Borzoi 5 Copy-edit 2 Lamented 27 Dream. DOWN: 1 Bernmused 2 Septa 24 Firepower 25 Crutchevillist 26 Debt 13 Linoleum 17 Fade-away 18 Isle 22 Misappropriate 10 Square one 11 Tenor 8 Bachelor 4 Badge 1 Budge 4 Bachelor 8

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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PROPERTY NEWS

Rise in unemployment prompts rent warning

LANDLORDS are being urged to find ways to ensure they receive their rent as the jobs market is so precarious.

Property website Smartlandlord.co.uk advised those renting out homes to be extra cautious after it released figures showing an increasing number of unemployed people were renting.

A year ago only 3.1 per cent of new tenants renting private property were unemployed but that figure has risen to 7.8 per cent.

Keshav Thukaram, managing director of Smartlandlord, said: "With the social housing sector ill-equipped to cope with the extra demand, private landlords are increasingly being called upon to take in unemployed people on benefit."

"There is evidence that some landlords are suffering because benefits aren't being paid on time, so landlords taking this route must ensure they know their rights, and apply to have the rent paid directly by the council if they experience problems."

The numbers of self-employed and retired tenants have also risen. Mr Thukaram urged landlords to run checks on new tenants, but also to ensure rents are secure should their tenants' financial circumstances change.

Negative equity is back but burden is shared

RESEARCH by the Council of Mortgage Lenders shows negative equity – where a home is worth less than its mortgage – has become an increasing problem because of falling house prices.

However, the group added that two thirds of those with negative equity were experiencing only "modest shortfalls" of ten per cent or less, and the scale of the issue needs to be kept in perspective, as home-owners still have about £2.1 trillion of unmortgaged housing equity.

Bob Pannell, the council's head of research, said: "Although negative equity has resurfaced as house prices have fallen, one big difference from the early 1990s downturn is that it is less concentrated among young, first-time buyers, and more evenly spread across wider age groups and those at different points on the housing ladder."

At the bottom of the last housing market recession in 1993, 1.5 million households were in negative equity.

The council said today's borrowers were following the pattern seen in the 1990s and choosing to stay put, waiting to recover their equity position.



Agent groups attack Budget for failing to tackle market needs

■ BY NICK AMES

THE Budget for the next financial year has come under fire from two influential groups for not doing enough to help lift the property market out of the slump.

The Association of Residential Letting Agents (Arla) attacked Chancellor Alistair Darling's Budget, announced in the Commons last week, calling it "wholly unsatisfactory" for having failed to give incentives for landlords to improve rental housing for a growing number of tenants.

And the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA) said the policies put forward were ineffectual and would do nothing to help the economy recover.

It wanted more to be done to encourage first-time buyers on to the housing ladder to get the market going again.

Ian Potter, operations manager of Arla, said: "Alistair Darling had a clear opportunity to improve the bottom end of the rental market and chose to maintain the status quo for Britain's worse-off tenants."

"Yet again Gordon Brown's administration has wasted an opportunity to improve the quality of stock of lettings property by failing to incentivise landlords through tax relief on labour and materials."

"Not only would this have helped to stimulate the market, particularly in the construction sector, but it would also have provided the greater standards of rented accommodation that this country desperately needs."

"Landlords should be recognised for what they bring not only to the housing market but to the wider economy and treated as any other responsible business."

In its Budget submission, Arla also called on the Government to introduce capital allowances for landlords improving housing stock over a certain age.

A second attack came from the influential estate agents' group who said there was no help for those trying to get on the housing ladder.

Peter Bolton King, chief executive of NAEA, said: "The housing market is the engine of the UK economy and it is likely that this Budget will be remembered as largely ineffectual, given the magnitude of the problem."

"There is very little here for first-time buy-



MONEY BOX: Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling outside 11 Downing Street on Budget day

ers, who need more encouragement to climb on to the property ladder which will get everything moving.

"Mr Darling has used a water pistol to try to put out a fire."

Mr Bolton King also attacked the extension of the £175,000 stamp duty land tax threshold as not going far enough to make any significant impact.

He said: "Merely extending the stamp duty threshold is disappointing. Mr Darling had a real opportunity to get rid of this hated tax,

which is seen by many as a tax on aspiration.

"Since the threshold was introduced last autumn it has helped just one third of first-time buyers."

"In this difficult economic time, Mr Darling could have seized the opportunity to encourage first-time buyers to the market and to send a signal of confidence that may have reverberated around the economy."

"Instead he has tried to choose a path to please everyone, which I suspect will please no one."



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SHEPHERDSWELL OIEO £205,000

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EYTHORNE OIEO £245,000

3 storey, Entrance Hall, Lounge, 3 Double Bedrooms, Bedroom Four/Study, Bathroom, Storage Area/Utility. Rear garden, garage and driveway, outside WC, central heating, double glazing.

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RINGWOULD OIEO £270,000

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GREATSTONE £210,000 FREEHOLD

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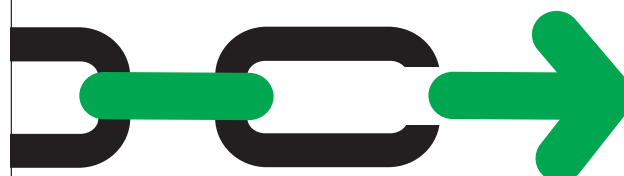
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GREATSTONE £310,000 FREEHOLD

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- Double Garage
- No Chain



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FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02936**

- 4 Bed Terraced Property
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- Garden



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- No Forward Chain



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- 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Currently Rented @ £400/Pcm
- No Chain



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- 4 Bed House
- Self Contained Flat
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WEST END **£144,950**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02526**

- 3 Bedrooms Top Floor Flat
- Views Over Grimston Gardens
- No Chain, Share Of Freehold



FOLKESTONE **£139,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02755**

- Three Bed Semi Detached House
- Large Garden
- Separate Dining Room



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FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HF002905**

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- No Chain



SANDGATE **£109,995**

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- Off Road Parking



DOVER **£95,000**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02838**

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- Luxury Fittings
- No Chain



Cheriton £425 pcm

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Folkestone £550 pcm

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Folkestone £575 pcm

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Cheriton £595 pcm

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Hythe £595 pcm

A well presented, spacious 2 bedroom, 1st floor apartment enjoying sea views from the picture windows in the living room. The purpose built building benefits from beautiful gardens. Available: 23/04/2009



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HAWKINGE



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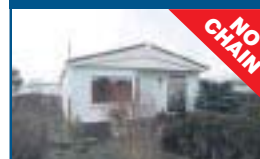
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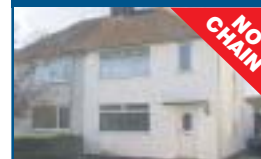
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Hi I'm Sam, 22, looking for a relationship. I'm blonde, have brown eyes, love cosy nights in and cinema, looking to share a relationship. Box 447871

SWEET DEBS

Hopeful, happy, shy girl, 22, loves all the normal stuff about life, searching for a mature guy, 24-39, for loving friendship and happiness. Box 880373

SINGLE DADS WELCOME

Curvy single mum, 23, cuddly and lovely, 5ft6, blonde and blue-eyed, like a drink, animals, reading, cinema, looking for honest, trustworthy and caring male. Box 451249

MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 446756

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471

SEEKING MR DARCY

Warm, kind and sincere woman, 31, tons of love and loyalty for the right person, seeking an honest genuine man with a good heart. Box 451004

STACEY LOOKING FOR HER GAVIN

Slim, blue eyed beauty, 31, Tunbridge Wells, loving, caring, very genuine. Wanting someone to cuddle up with at night and have lots of laughs with. Box 881494

LTR WANTED

Easy-going black female, 32, medium build, likes football, cooking and socialising, looking for a non-smoking, loving and caring white male, 25-48, Eastbourne Box 449294

HAPPY SHOPPER!

Easygoing female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTm loving, caring white male, 35-47, for long-term, loving relationship. No time-wasters. Box 444214

CARING, CONSIDERATE, HOPEFULLY YOUNG

Lovely young lady, 33, 5ft8, cuddly larger build, single mum, seeking kind, caring, honest and genuine man for friendship...hopefully more. Box 450371

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, single, honest and trusting male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

CHATHAM UP!

Pretty black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-47, for LTR. Chatham. Box 437778

CUDDLY FEMALE

32, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh and WLTm nice, kind gent. Box 394042

FIT FOR FUN

Petite, dark-haired girl, 33, 5ft, fit, loves badminton, cinema and more, searching for an active man, with heart and soul. Box 881047

HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tall, dark, WLTm intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595

A NEW FUTURE!

I'm Rachel, 35, medium, enjoys pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share things with. Box 446891

GALLOP AHEAD!

Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest and have 4 children. I enjoy drives and horse riding and WLTm honest, reliable man. Box 451311

LIVING IT

Fair-haired female, 35, 5ft, loves the gym, pubs, nights out and fine company, searching for fun bloke, for life, love and laughter. Box 881011

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

WHERE LOVE TAKES US

Attractive woman, great personality to go with, looking to meet a fit, tall, well-built black male, 35-55, for fun times, hopefully romance. Box 450650

A FAIRY TALE ENDING

Easygoing blonde animal lover, 41, easygoing, tactile, enjoy eating out, cinema, pubs, looking for loyal, caring, funny man, 35-45. Box 451079

FANCY A DRINK?

Hi I'm Judith, 40, small, blonde hair, blue eyes, love the sea and water-sports, cinema, animals; WLTm fun-loving guy for friendship and see what happens. Box 448107

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Hello, I'm Nikki, 41yr young, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, cinema, dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possibly romance, fun times. Box 444796

LIFE IS GIVING LOVE A GUARANTEE

Down-to-earth lady, 42, sincere, honest and reliable, looking for a male for friendship first, going out, enjoying evenings and perhaps something more later on. Box 449712

COSY TIMES TOGETHER

Fun-loving female, 42, looking for someone who can make me laugh and enjoys country walks, films, travelling and a nice evening cuddled up. Box 881545

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with GSOH for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

LET'S CLICK

WLTm a nice guy with a similar nature. I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes. Tell me about you! Box 446847

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a caring, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552

HISTORIC MEETING?

Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440682

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053

SEIZING THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428696

BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 39, 5ft6, likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

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CUTE AS CAN BE

Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 887983

ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking nice man for potential exciting relationship. Box 446724

THE SIMPLE THINGS...

I like reading/writing, going out, music. Seeking kind, genuine, honest chap; I'm a 40yr old woman who enjoys the simple things in life. Box 448542

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy, likes days out music, concerts, cinema, walks, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship, relationship. Box 901893

JOINED AT THE HIP

Sociable petite girl, great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434

SOUND GOOD?

Medium build brunette, 40, 5ft7, single mum, enjoy bowling and water-sports, looking for a tall, non-smoking, white male for a stable and affectionate relationship. Box 450658

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTm a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

A HEART FULL OF LOVE

Nice looking, 41yr old mixed race female, likes cinema, walks, eating out, bowling, WLTm a genuine white male with GSOH for a fun filled friendship/relationship. Box 450890

WHERE LOVE TAKES US

Attractive woman, great personality to go with, looking to meet a fit, tall, well-built black male, 35-55, for fun times, hopefully romance. Box 450650

A FAIRY TALE ENDING

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WLTm a nice guy with a similar nature. I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes. Tell me about you! Box 446847

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

A FINE ROMANCE

Pleasant female, 43, medium/large build, blue/green eyes, grown up children, beach walks, relaxing, reading, winning, seeks sincere male with GSOH, for LTR. Box 429071

COME ON DOWN!

Honest, bubbly female 45, long hair, slim, enjoys walking, cinema, socialising, seeks honest, friendly chap for friendship leading to more. Box 882963

LOVING IT LARGE

Spiritual 44yr old female, enjoy gardening, cooking and walks on the beach, WLTm a warm, loving and caring male for friendship, maybe a LTR. Box 444803

FRIENDSHIP FIRST

Understanding, caring female, 45, 5ft4, medium build, brown hair, likes cinema, animals, music, romantic pubs, seeking male for cuddles, hugs and more. Box 444873

SOUND GOOD?

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTm a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

44yr old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER

Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952

ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

LAST CHANCE

Good-looking blonde, 50, looking for a kind, reliable and honest man, must be a moderate drinker, for companionship and romance. Box 450655

BE MY GUY

Young 50s lady, slim, 5ft4, fair hair, a smoker, loves music, going out, cooking, gardening, seeking similar loving, caring, honest male. Box 449288

HERE AND NOW

Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, at night, out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

Smart, attractive, bubbly blonde, 72, own house, GSOH, lives on coast, enjoys most things, WLTm smart gentleman for friendship, maybe more. Box 438147

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CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 471001

THE REAL THING

Lively bubbly lady, 52, brown hair blue eyes, 5ft7, medium build, likes travel and walks, documentaries, films, seeking male with GSOH for fun-loving relationship. Box 451255

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795

A COMPANION FOR LIFE?

Blonde lady, 56, 5ft5, medium build, playful, attractive, devoted mum, ready to start dating again and seeking male who loves travel, theatre, walks, cinema and more. Box 448449

HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO

Londoner new to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587

TAKE ME BY THE HAND

Hi I'm a 57yr old woman, likes cinema, theatre, walking, reading, looking for a genuine, honest man who will make me laugh. Maidstone Box 450098

SOMETHING NEW

Caring female with GSOH, 58, 5ft2, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, theatre, holidays and music; WLTm male with GSOH, genuine, for friendship, maybe more. Eastbourne. Box 447662

SOULMATES YET TO MEET?

Female 49, 5ft4, outgoing, caring, friendly, looking for male 40s-60s for friendship and fun times. Ideal match dark hair and eyes and younger. Box 449896

ROMANTIC MALE WANTED!

Interests: theatre, music, gardening, cooking, walks. I'm a tactile, loving female, considerate, with a GSOH, 59, 5ft2, dark hair/blue eyes and WLTm romantic, non-smoking gent. Box 450420

DREAMS OF YOU

Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448566

WALKS ALONG THE COAST

Honest & sincere female, 50, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

HAPPY AS ME

Fun-to-be with, happy, contented lady, 60, 5ft4, I enjoy theatre, dining out and having friends round for a great evening and pets. Box 88212

SOMEBODY TO LAUGH WITH...

Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG

Useful, intelligent, caring female, 62, young looking/acting, like walks, music, cooking, seeking sensitive, caring, un-complicated male, N/S, perhaps a dog owner, for friendship first. Box 424345

A MAN OF FEW WORDS, BUT MUCH LOVE

Hi, 40yr old fun-loving male, looking to meet slim fun-loving female, looks important, for hopeful LTR. Many hobbies! Box 450819

TLC ON OFFER

Good-looking man, 40, 5ft7, medium build, dark brown/eyes, like travelling, sport and adventures, looking for a girl, same interests, 20-33, for friendship/romance. Hastings Box 450613

HI THERE I'M...

Brian, 40, 5ft8, hazel eyes, black hair, into sport and keeping fit, looking for a special lady to share the good and the bad with. Box 450563

FRIENDS FIRST

Outgoing, young-minded man, 40, 5ft7, blue eyes/blond hair, slim/average build. I'm easygoing and relaxed and like like travel, music, film, restaurants, theatre, days out, badminton. Box 451361

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Genuine woman, easygoing, caring, 45, long brown hair, blue eyes. I love music, eating out, reading/writing, drives, weekends away. WLTm boyish female. Box 448248

Women seeking women

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

I'm a 26yr old female, looking for new friends and maybe that special girl...let's have a meal and a drink and see what happens! Box 448722

FUN AND MAYBE MORE

Hi I'm 37, new to town and would love to meet some genuine companions to socialise with and go out and have some fun. Box 880564

MOTORS NEWS



VW dealer defies motor sales trend on used cars

BEADLES VW of Maidstone has bucked the economic trend by boosting used car sales 32 per cent in 2009's tricky first quarter. Sales overall are up six per cent too against early 2008.

Keith Dowle, brand manager at the Quarry Wood site, attributed the sales team's (pictured) success in challenging times to pricing plus strong branding and residual values. He said the showroom had also been praised for customer service, monitored using mystery shopper and customer satisfaction surveys.



Barretts Jaguar is the tops with customers

BARRETTS Jaguar of Canterbury has taken the number one slot in Jaguar UK's customer loyalty and satisfaction award.

Key factors included good customer relationships, ensuring cars were delivered on time and dealing with any subsequent needs professionally and efficiently.

Accepting the 2008 award at a ceremony in Vienna, sales manager Jon Mason (pictured left with Jaguar UK sales director David Lewis) said: "Here at Barretts Jaguar we have always been proud of going that extra mile."



Meaner and leaner, the new Freelander arrives

LAND Rover's most fuel-efficient vehicle ever is now available at Barretts, Ashford.

Dealer principal Mark Nicholas, said there had been eager anticipation of the new Freelander 2 TD4e with stop-start, which cuts the engine to avoid unnecessary fuel use and emissions when stopped and then smoothly restarts it when needed, saving some 20 per cent fuel in traffic.

Mr Nicholas said: "Sophisticated controls ensure the Stop/Start system does not compromise the needs of either the driver or the dynamics of the vehicle."



TOUGH LOVE: Keenly priced and racy-looking, the estate version of the Kia Ceed SW looks impressive against the more conventional-looking Ford Focus, Vauxhall Astra and VW Golf

Family workhorse comes with thoroughbred appeal

LOOKING for a family workhorse and can't stand the idea of an MPV? Here's a no-brainer option – the Kia Ceed SW.

It's a keenly-priced, racy-looking estate version of the Korean marque's stylish, but slightly less dynamic, rival to the best-selling Ford Focus.

A £700 premium over the hatchback also brings the same unique seven-year/100,000-mile warranty – perhaps even more important if you need to work your estate car hard.

Okay, that fastback styling might not look best for ultimate capacity in load lugging, but it adds 235mm onto the rear section of the hatch version and the tailgate hinges inboard to reduce the upswing and outswing – owners can stand closer to the car and access the boot in tighter spaces.

Boot and maximum load space with seats up is 534 litres – helped by excellent underfloor stowage bins – and 1,664 litres with rear seats folded, compared with 340 and 1,300 respectively for the hatchback Ceed. This makes the SW impressive against estates with more conventional looks too such as the Ford Focus

ROAD TEST KIA CEED SW

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

(503 and 1546), Vauxhall Astra (470 and 1550) and new VW Golf Estate (505 and 1550).

Equally impressive is the 113bhp 1.6-litre diesel of our £15,545 LS-spec test car. It is a cracking all-rounder for a potentially hard-working estate car like this and can average nearly 60mpg. It is easily the best power option, though you can also have a 120bhp 1.6-litre petrol, 89bhp 1.6 diesel or 138bhp 2.0 diesel.

And you can forget about plasticky Korean interiors of the past with the intoxicating whiff of Airfix modelling glue; the Ceed range has been designed to be European and is churned out in a state-of-the-art plant in Slovakia with the fit, finish and touch of the interior matching Western standards and even includes an iPod/MP3 player connection that really does work... unlike some.

However, the Ceed's ride can be fidgety and it feels vague when pushed hard on a winding road, though grip is good.

On the other hand, you should view the Ceed SW more as an unbreakable workhorse pitched against van-based MPVs and the likes of Skoda's Roomster and Vauxhall's Meriva, as well as Focus-class estates.

With prices from £12,995, it's a no-brainer.



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08 58 **SEAT ALHAMBRA STYLANCE TDI 2.0 140PS 5DR**
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... **£12,295**



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EMOCION RED, 2 KEEPERS, 17000 MILES
... **NOW ONLY £8,995**



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SILVER MET, 1 KEEPER, 30,000 MILES ... **£7,295**

AWAITING
PICTURE

06 06 **VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 DESIGN**
5 DOOR MPV SPEARMINT BLUE
LOW MILEAGE ... **£5995**

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06 06 **RENAULT SCENIC 2.0 AUTO PRIVILEGE**
5 DOOR ANTIQUE GREEN LOW MILEAGE ... **£6995**

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06 06 **VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE**
SILVER MET AUTO LOW MILEAGE ... **£6295**

AWAITING
PICTURE

06 06 **RENAULT KANGOO 1.6 EXPRESSION**
AUTO GIVERNY GREEN MET LOW MILEAGE ... **£6295**

AWAITING
PICTURE

06 06 **SKODA FABIA ESTATE AMBIENT**
5 DOOR GREEN MET 1 OWNER ... **£6295**



06 06 **RENAULT CLIO 1.2 EXTREME**
21000 MILES ... **£5,995**



05 05 **BMW Z4 SE 3.0i ROADSTER/CONVERTIBLE**
MALDIVES BLUE METALLIC, 2 KEEPERS, 7300 MILES
... **NOW ONLY £16,750**



06 06 **FORD FOCUS ESTATE ZETEC AUTOMATIC**
AQUARIUS BLUE MET, 1 OWNER, FSH ... **£7,295**



06 06 **TOYOTA COROLLA 1.4 16V VVT-i**
COLOUR COLLECTION 5-DOOR HATCHBAC
51,000 MILES, SILVER ... **£6,295**



06 55 **FORD FOCUS C-MAX 1.6 LX 5 DOOR**
22000 MILES MET BLUE, A/CON ... **£5,995**



06 55 **VAUXHALL MERIVA ESTATE 1.4 LIFE 16V**
MET RED 1 OWNER ... **£5,995**



05 55 **PEUGEOT 206 1.4 URBAN 5 DOOR**
SILVER METALLIC, 1 KEEPER ... **£5,995**



06 56 **CITROEN C1 1.0 VIBE 3 DOOR**
SCARLET RED, 1 KEEPER, 16500 MILES
... **NOW ONLY £4,995**

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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

NON GERMAN COMPACT EXECUTIVE CARS carsforrent.co.uk

BMW'S all-conquering 3-Series compact executive model is a top-ten seller in the UK. Its German rivals – the Mercedes C-Class and Audi A4 – are never far behind either, but you can buy status, quality and style elsewhere... and save money. The Lexus IS series is a good alternative, but we reckon there are better bargains in the current climate; check out these three distinctive offerings from different nations to suit various tastes, pockets and space requirements. Don't judge them at face value either, because a test drive tells the true story.

HONDA ACCORD



IS it a prestige badge or not? Even Honda is unclear about that. There is no doubting Honda quality, but everyday models like the Jazz supermini – though a marvellous car – harm Honda's argument that the Accord deserves mention alongside the BMW 3-Series. Nevertheless, the Honda is beautifully made, offers a sporting drive and is probably the car least likely to fail en route to a top-level meeting. The diesel's quiet and refined too and the previous generation estate is capacious.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

JAGUAR X-TYPE



IT was a slow burn for X-Type sales, highlighted by faltering residuals in the early days. Jag snobs didn't like it being derived from the front driven Mondeo, although Ford-owned Jaguar deflected this by offering the car in Audi-style all-wheel drive only at first. But the 'X' is reliable, drives well in all forms and the smooth diesels and a lovely estate (pictured) redeemed its status. However, used values have stumbled recently and there are serious bargains to be had.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VOLVO S40



OUR smallest contender here, and Volvo's best-ever junior model by far, the S40 shows all the benefits of belonging to the Ford empire while retaining its own Swedish style. It is built on a modified front-driven Ford Focus chassis – nothing wrong there as it's one of the best for keen drivers – while the styling is pure Volvo, complete with scalloped rear wings and tail lights. Inside, is classic Scandinavian too: neat and well arranged, plus an innovative 'flying' centre console.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★



Car prices less than Parker's

Our prices
are less than
Parker's Price
Guide†

08 08 Renault Clio Dynamique TCE 100 5dr

Parker's Price £9,005



Save **£1,106*** Our Price from **£7,899**

07 57 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style 3dr (Climate)

Parker's Price £6,930



Save **£431*** Our Price from **£6,499**

06 06 Mitsubishi Colt CZC 1.5 Turbo 2dr

Parker's Price £8,355



Save **£765*** Our Price from **£7,590**

06 06 Renault Megane 1.4 Dynamique 3dr

Parker's Price £5,735



Save **£255*** Our Price from **£5,480**

07 07 Kia Ceed 1.6 CRDi GS 5dr

Parker's Price £8,825



Save **£126*** Our Price from **£8,699**

08 08 Kia Pro Ceed 2.0 CRDi Sport 3dr

Parker's Price £11,910



Save **£411*** Our Price from **£11,499**

06 56 Ford Fusion 1.6 TDCi Plus 5dr

Parker's Price £8,260



Save **£761*** Our Price from **£7,499**

07 57 Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDi PD Ambiente DSG 5dr

Parker's Price £10,495



Save **£496*** Our Price from **£9,999**

07 07 Peugeot 307 S
HDi 110 5dr with Air Con

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COLT, 1.1 Mirage 3dr, gf55kyl, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, grey, 11675 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 Blue 3dr, gj56xmo, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, radio/cd, blue, 22000 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 C21 3dr, lv08gwn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, red, 64 miles, £5995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 C22 5dr "Parking Sensors", gk58vuf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, cruise control, electric mirrors, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, remote locking, black, 4000 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C23C 2dr, gk09nwt, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 Di-D C22 5dr Auto, gk58vfe, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, grey, 50 miles, £8795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

I-CAR, 5dr Auto, gn08gzw, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, tinted glass, £7993, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, Double Cab 2.5 Td Trojan, ej56ych, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, power assisted steering, remote locking, silver, 27000 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5TD Trojan Double Cab, ro06tza, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, black, 51000 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5 Di-D Warrior Double Cab, dy07ovb, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, remote locking, traction control, grey, 34000 miles, £10495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5 Di-D Animal Double Cab, fe07aaz, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, foglights, leather upholstery, limited slip differential, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, power assisted steering, remote locking, grey, 34000 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, front armrest, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:8, saving, blue, 6800 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 Equipe 5dr Auto, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:9, black, 15000 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr, gk08ycg, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, 3yrs/37500 mile free servicing with this car, silver, 9000 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

107, 1.0 Sport XS 3dr, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:1, black, 9800 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

207, 1.4 Urban 3dr, gk57vxn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, insurance group:3, blue, 4537 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

207, 1.4 Urban 3dr, gk57vxn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, insurance group:3, blue, 4537 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, 1.2 16V Dynamique 3dr [AC], gk55gys, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, sports seats, sunroof, insurance group:3, silver, 14615 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SMART

FORTWO coupé passion, 2008, silver metallic, 3000 miles, £8199, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2006, sugar candy pink, 7262 miles, £6999, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2008, blue metallic, 7400 miles, £7990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2007, river silver metallic, 24740 miles, £6990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2008, deep black, 7600 miles, £7990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2007, lite white, 5900 miles, £6680, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2008, crystal white, 5500 miles, £8199, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2007, red metallic, 18700 miles, £6499, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

YARIS, 1.0 VWT-i Colour Collection 3dr, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:2, silver, 26000 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, 1.6i 16V SXi Digital 5dr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, black, 23000 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 1.8 VVT Exclusiv Black 2dr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, leather seats, immobiliser, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, black, 25000 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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- NURSING, MEDICINE, CARE WORK
- OTHER
- PRINT, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION
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- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
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- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments

51-53

The Academy of English Studies, Folkestone requires the following staff:
CELTA QUALIFIED TEACHERS
 from June until December 2009.
 A dynamic, flexible and creative
SOCIAL ORGANISER - Immediate start.
 For further information please contact info@aesfolkestone.co.uk
 or call 01303 210808
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SANDWICH TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
 SANDWICH, KENT
 Technology, Vocational and Training School
 Status
 Headteacher: Richard Wallis
 Current Roll: 1300
 "Sandwich Technology School is an outstanding school" –
 Ofsted December 2008

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

To cover a maternity period

Required from September 2009, a suitably qualified, experienced and enthusiastic person to make a significant contribution in our successful English Department.

Applications are welcome from NQTs.

Teacher of Science and Teacher of ICT KS4 & 5 also required for September 2009.

An information pack and application form are available from the school:
 Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road, Sandwich, Kent CT13 0FA

Tel: 01304 610013 Fax: 01304 610100

www.sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk

e-mail: stella.leitner@sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk
 Closing Date: Friday, 8 May 2009

The school is committed to safeguarding children and the post is subject to an enhanced disclosure check.

WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE
 Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ
 Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766
 e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
 Headteacher : S.Heaton BSc (Hons) NPOH.
 MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 800 ON ROLL REQUIRED
 FOR 1st SEPTEMBER 2009

TEACHER OF ART (0.4 FTE)

The post would be suitable for either NQTs or more experienced teachers. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered whatever your status. The successful applicant will:-

- be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school.
 Closing date: 8th May 2009

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VACANCY FOR A DEPUTY MANAGER IN A CARE HOME REGISTERED FOR 29 YOUNG ADULTS WITH AUTISM / ASPERGERS SYNDROME

- NVQ 4 in Care Qualified preferred, however other relevant Qualifications considered, funding available for NVQ 4
- Two years experience in a managerial position working with young adults with autism spectrum conditions
- Driver essential

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm plus on call
 Salary dependent on qualifications & experience £18,000 - £20,000 p.a.

Closing date for application 22 May 2009

For an application form & job description please phone 01797 363550
 The Springs Community, St. Mary's Bay, Kent

Dover · online · Calais

e-Commerce Marketing Executive

THE ROLE

This is an exciting, varied role for an experienced Marketing Executive to work in a fun, friendly team. You need to be passionate about online marketing and taking an active role in all e-Commerce Marketing projects with the team.

The main responsibilities include:

- Maintenance of our website (ensuring it is always kept up to date) plus testing of new developments;
- Search Engine Optimisation and Pay Per Click activity management;
- Affiliate and partner relationship development and management;
- Creating and managing domains and microsites for the SeaFrance portfolio; and
- Assisting with the continued development of the Customer Relationship Management programme.

Key to this role is the ability to understand and influence consumers through online marketing to bring them through to the website and encourage them to book. Other areas of responsibility include running, updating and circulating reports for activities, liaising with external agencies and internal departments to ensure we maximise our revenue and co-ordinate activity.

THE PERSON

We're looking for someone who is dynamic, has a creative flair and can provide evidence of delivering in a fast-paced and focused online environment. Online Marketing experience is essential and must include an in-depth understanding of Search Engines and website usability. Knowledge of html and content management systems is preferable.

You must be educated to a minimum of A-level standard and have a CIM qualification or equivalent. A good command of the English language for writing copy is required as well as direct marketing experience to support our busy Marketing department.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

A competitive salary; 23 days holiday per year rising to 26 days, plus statutory holidays; contributory pension; life assurance cover and concessionary travel benefits.

To apply, please send your CV and covering letter detailing salary expectations to Human Resources, SeaFrance Ltd, Whitfield Court, Honeywood Close, Whitfield, Kent, CT16 3PX or email recruitment@seafraunce.fr

Closing Date: 1 May 2009

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Contact: 01227 774808
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Ashbridge Domestic Appliances

We require a qualified Domestic Appliance Engineer.

Good rates of pay and benefits including vehicle, healthcare, training & uniform.

CV's to: Mr Pluckrose, Ashbridge Domestic Appliances, Unit 2, Bridge Rd, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1BB



HARBOUR SPECIAL SCHOOL

Elms Vale Road, Dover CT17 9PS

Tel: 01304 201964

E-Mail: admin@harbour.kent.sch.uk

Teaching Assistants

Kent Scheme, Band 3, Points 7-11 + SEN Allowance
 £14,099 - £15,984 (pro-rata) 30 hours per week, term time only
 Start: ASAP

Harbour Special School has a mixed roll of 96 students between the ages of 5 and 16. The school is a day special school for children with a combination of behaviour and learning needs. The completion of a 2-year building project in 2007 has seen the school accommodation extended and modernised with excellent new facilities now available.

The Governors are seeking to appoint two Teaching Assistants to join our dedicated and highly effective staff team who are bright, full of ideas and enjoy using their own initiative.

The successful candidates will work within the secondary phase supporting pupils with a range of behaviour and learning needs. Experience of working in a school environment with special needs pupils in particular, would be an advantage but is not essential as full training will be provided.

Ofsted (2006) describes the school as "outstanding in all areas", the school has an excellent reputation locally and it provides a challenging, productive and happy learning environment. The school has also gained the "Investors in People" standard and therefore places a high priority on professional and career development.

For more information and an application pack, please contact the school office.

Closing Date: Monday 11 May 2009

Interview Date: Thursday 14 May 2009

The school requires a completed application form - no CV's accepted



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Established in 1910 Geering and Colyer is a traditional Estate Agent with traditional values with 8 offices based around Kent.

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If you are a high calibre individual with a 'can-do' attitude, good communication skills and of smart appearance then contact us to find out more about our structured career path, extensive training and our exciting working environment.

To find out more please contact:

Human Resources

0800 376 7890

or email your CV to: shelley.metson@kent.cwea.co.uk

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Learning Resource Centre Assistant

Ref: P0282

37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year

Salary: £9,939 - £17,750 pro rata

We are looking for an enthusiastic candidate to assist the efficient running of the Learning Resource Centre, ensuring the delivery of high quality, customer focused, easily accessible services to all users. The successful candidate will be responsible for Library administrative and organisational duties and have good communication and IT skills.

Lecturer in Hair Design

Ref: P0342

22 hours per week

Salary: £25,895 - £29,622 pro rata

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Technician in Beauty

Ref: P0277

Salary: £11,479 - £17,750

The College is looking to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide guidance and support to learners and assist with the running of various Clinics. You will be able to demonstrate good organisational and communication skills and relevant experience within the beauty industry would be advantageous.

Administrative Apprentice

Ref: P0594

Salary: £6,171

As a member of the Business Development Team you will provide administrative support to the College stakeholders. The successful candidate will develop competencies to meet NVQ Level 2 Standards of performance.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Plumbing and Heating

Ref: SE004

£20.37 - £28.67 per hour

An opportunity has arisen within the Construction and Engineering Department for a Lecturer to contribute to the delivery and development of Level 3 Plumbing, Heating and Gas Programmes. The successful candidate will have current knowledge of the Building Engineering Industry and a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one; an Assessors qualification would be advantageous.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Business

Ref: SE005

£20.37 - £28.67 per hour

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma Business programmes. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification and be able to deliver Key Skills to a level 2 standard.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Healthcare

Ref: SE007

£20.37 - £28.67 per hour

The post holder will be involved in the delivery of Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Public Services

Ref: SE008

£20.37 - £28.67 per hour

We are seeking an enthusiastic Lecturer to teach a range of BTEC and school links programmes. The successful candidate will have relevant experience within Public Services and hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT

Ref: SE006

£20.37 - £28.67 per hour

The College is looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma IT programmes. The successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification and be able to deliver Key Skills to a level 2 standard.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Childcare

Ref: SE009

£20.37 - £28.67 per hour

We are looking to recruit an individual to deliver and teach Childcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Childcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing date: Friday 15 May 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer



Career Opportunities



Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Section Manager Construction Craft	08/12
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum	
Lecturer Animal Care and Horse Studies	02/59
37 hrs per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum	
Supply Lecturer Counselling	S/COU
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Supply Lecturer Higher Education - Fine Art	S/HE/FA
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Trainer Demonstrator Fabrication and Welding	TD3
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum	

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 11th May 2009 at 12 noon



CLICK
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



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01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



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If you would like to join them from **September 2009 to August 2010**, we are confident that:-

- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have.
- It will certainly be the most satisfying.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

OFSTED 2009 said,

"Bradstow is an outstanding school"

"The curriculum and the quality of teaching and support are exceptional"

"It is to the tremendous credit of a highly skilled and well-qualified team of teachers and support staff that they enable pupils to overcome and cope with the substantial learning and emotional barriers that they face"

"Bradstow is a very complex organization and a centre of excellence in its own field"

If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available.

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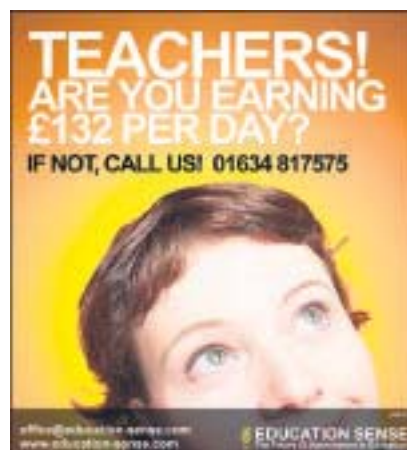
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Alternatively, please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

June date for next B2B exhibition at Ramada

BUSINESS Representation Solutions, a support service for business sales and marketing, is holding its next B2B – business to business – exhibition on Wednesday, June 10, at the Ramada Hotel in Hollingbourne.

It's open to all business attendees free of charge. There is no membership fee or other obligation in attending the exhibition, which will start at 9.30am.

There will be a networking breakfast and lunch. To book a stand and for further information, phone 01322 278311, email info@busrepsol.co.uk, or visit www.busrepsol.co.uk.

Debt recovery strategy workshop by law firm

LAW firm Furley Page is running the second of its interactive workshops tomorrow (Thursday) aimed at helping businesses create a debt recovery strategy in the recession.

In partnership with Kent Invicta Chamber, the workshop – at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel, Maidstone – will be part seminar, part question and answer session. It starts at 8.30am, with breakfast, finishes at 11.45am, and is open to members and non-members alike.

Details on 01233 503838 or online at www.kentinvictachamber.co.uk.

Invicta's one-stop-shop

KENT Invicta Chamber of Commerce has compiled a one-stop-shop information source designed to direct companies to where help is available.

Chief executive Jo James said it had created a new section on its website at www.kentinvictachamber.co.uk.

This would allow businesses to find what is on offer to help them through the recession, rebuild business plans to match circumstances and recover from problems.

The chamber covers Ashford, Canterbury, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Malling and Tunbridge Wells.

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Kent 2020 Vision speaker Kriss Akabusi talks to Julie Maddocks. Search 'Kriss'

Leaner and greener in brave new world



SEE THE LIGHT: Seeda is managing the £2.9m pot available for low-carbon initiatives aimed at cutting costs and boosting profits

A POT of £2.9 million is available through the South East England Development Agency (Seeda) for low-carbon initiatives that it reckons will help more than 3,000 regional businesses cut costs and boost profits.

Half the money is from the European Regional Development Fund, and the other half from Seeda, which is setting up programmes covering sustainability issues and the three Rs – reduction, reuse and recycling.

It's all part of a wider range of targets, including an 89,000-tonne reduction in the growth rate of carbon dioxide emissions, a £3.2 million boost to the region's economy and the creation of hundreds of jobs.

Oona Muirhead, Seeda's executive director for skills and sustainable prosperity, said: "In these difficult economic conditions it's all the more important that we help businesses take advantage of new market opportunities in the growing global green economy."

"This is good for profit margins and employment, as well as for tackling the region's ecological footprint."

"This latest round of ERDF funding will help ensure projects that can contribute to a successful, sustainable future for the region don't fall by the wayside."

The funding forms part of the – wait for it – South East England European Regional Development Fund Competitiveness Programme 2007-13 that was approved in December 2007.

The South East was the first UK region to have the programme adopted.

A key priority will be encouraging tiny and slightly larger businesses to work together, forming groups that can benefit from better access to funding.

One of the initiatives covers training programmes for small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) – and that's most of

BY TONY PATEY

the firms in Kent – worth some £3,500 each if they want to go sustainable.

This is probably attractive to a lot of owners because customers are becoming more aware of sustainable and environmental business practices.

However, they'll be asked to invest in their companies so policies are carried out and companies will have to meet eligibility criteria.

The funding is in the hands of PLATOGB – an offshoot of Southern Enterprise Alliance, a private not-for-profit company – and it's for a two-year business and personal development programme.

Programme director Alexandra Massey said: "In these lean times, the green issue is having more of an impact than ever."

"If the consumer has the choice, locally-sourced products with a neutral carbon footprint are winning over something that's been flown in or has a heavy carbon footprint."

"This programme is about helping local companies implement a sustainable agenda, add a positive contribution to their marketing and make a difference to their profits."

Participants can go along to free induction seminars to learn more before going on the full programme – in Kent they are on Thursday, May 21, at Ashford International Hotel, from 4.30pm to 6pm, and on Tuesday, May 26, at the Holiday Inn, Rochester, at the same times.

Details from 0845 73545.

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AHEAD OF THE GAME: Pat Kingwell

VCD pip Town at the post to claim the title

Slade Green 2 Hythe Town 5

FREE from the pressures of the title race, Hythe Town cut loose on Saturday to end the season with a thumping win at Slade Green.

Paul Fisk's side went into the game knowing only a mathematical miracle would see them overtake VCD Athletic to claim the Kent League championship.

They fell behind early on, but an own goal from Grant Cunningham saw the sides go in level at half-time. After the break Town showed glimpses of the form that saw them top the table for much of the season, scoring four times.

Pat Kingwell put them in front for the first time six minutes after the break and goals from Lee Winfield and Buster Smissen put the result beyond doubt. After a consolation from Kriss Hollidge, Dale Skelton completed the scoring in injury time.

The victory left Hythe as runners-up, three points behind VCD. It left Town's fans to wonder what might have been but for a late-season slump, but Fisk's team are sure to be contenders to go one better next season.

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Gills manager Mark Stimson discusses how to deal with being in the play-offs



TOUGH: Jimmy Dryden (above left) scored a brace on Saturday, taking his season's tally to 24, while Neil Cugley (above right) said that it was his toughest season in 22 years



Seasiders fight back to end toughest season on a high

A ROUSING second-half performance saw Folkestone Invicta sign off with a handsome win to complete a season that Neil Cugley admitted had been the toughest in his long managerial career.

After a poor first half, the Seasiders emerged after the break a different side and thrashed Walton Casuals to finish the season in the Ryman South's top half. Micheal Everitt and Jacob Arnold-Smith put the hosts in control, before Jimmy Dryden took his tally for the campaign to 24 with a brace.

Cugley said: "I had a bit of a moan and groan at half-time, but the second half I thought we did ever so well. To finish in the top half is pleasing, considering the season we've had."

Following relegation from the Ryman Premier on the last day of the season, Invicta looked on course to bounce straight back early in the season. They were second in the table when the club was rocked with the announce-

FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Folkestone Invicta 4

M Everitt 48, Arnold-Smith 53, Dryden 61 & 71

Walton Casuals 0



Folkestone Invicta starting XI



ment of crippling debts in October. Overnight ambitions of promotion vanished, replaced by fears the club might not even survive the season. Enough was done to secure their status until May, but with wages not paid the bulk of the first team left.

For Cugley, who seriously considered his own position, it was a hugely frustrating time.

"I have been in management for 22 years and this season was definitely the hardest," he said. "The worst part was taking away a good side trying to win the league. Suddenly it's taken away from you. I think the team would have

been very close to winning the title. It's easy to say that now, but there were a couple of players we would have brought in which I think would have made the difference.

"I did have to think about [leaving], but I do like the club and I'm pleased I stayed because the younger players have done superbly."

The silver lining was the promotion of local youngsters such as Josh Vincent, Josh Burchell and Kieran Byrne. Their progress gives optimism for next season, with all the players signing on for next season – providing the club can find a solution to the financial problems.



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Browning injury and red cards mar Dover's parade

FOOTBALL

BY YOURDOVER REPORTER

Tonbridge Angels 0

Dover 2

Sidibe 16, Wallis 30

A SICKENING injury to Lee Browning overshadowed the end to one of the most glorious seasons in Athletic's history on Saturday.

Browning will make a full recovery, but the game was held up for more than half an hour after the midfielder was accidentally hit on the temple by a fierce cross from Tim Olorunda and knocked out cold in the 10th minute.

He swallowed his tongue and only the swift intervention of medical staff from both sides prevented him from suffocating.

Browning was taken to hospital in Tunbridge Wells and discharged in time to return to Longmead for the end of the game, but his brush with mortality should have lent some kind of perspective to an end-of-season game.

The Angels were guaranteed third place before this game kicked off and with the title already in the bag for Dover this should have been a quieter affair than some of the



FRIGHT: Lee Browning was knocked unconscious after taking the full force of a Tonbridge free-kick

incendiary recent encounters between these two sides.

When Browning was applauded off the field by both sets of supporters, it seemed that sanity might prevail, but instead the game degenerated into a derby arguably more furiously contested than the 2006 play-off final between these sides, when promotion was at stake.

Six minutes after play resumed, Dover

Dover starting XI



Subs used: Bodkin (Browning 11), Hughes (Sidibe 64)

went in front when Lassana Sidibe blasted in a cross from Sam Gore, but a further delay ensued when the referee was injured and it took ten minutes to find a replacement.

A linesman took charge and quickly found himself in the centre of a storm as Lee Worgan produced a shocking throw that went straight to Jon Wallis.

Worgan brought him down, conceded a penalty and was shown a straight red card, allowing Wallis to make it 2-0 from the spot.

The sides were evened up when Ollie Schulz was shown a straight red card for an alleged elbow on Carl Rook.

The Tonbridge bench reacted furiously and both Tommy Warrilow and Dover boss Andy Hessenthaler were sent off for their roles in the mêlée that followed.

Testosterone levels finally dipped during a goalless second period, but after all this posturing the question was clear: shouldn't Tonbridge have left something in the tank for their play-off semi-final on Tuesday?

FOOTBALL



CONCERNED: Dover manager Andy Hessenthaler

Hess praises physios for saving player's life

LEE BROWNING'S welfare was Andy Hessenthaler's only concern both during and after Dover's 2-0 win at Tonbridge.

The midfielder was hospitalised after being hit in the face by the ball ten minutes into the game at Longmead, but Dover manager Hessenthaler says the quick action of medical staff at the ground prevented a tragedy.

"Lee's OK - he actually came back in the bus with us, but he stopped breathing for a few seconds," Hessenthaler told Yourdover.

"Both physios were fantastic, though, and he seems OK, but after what happened to him I didn't care about the result."

Hessenthaler admitted he was surprised by the intensity of the game, given it could not affect either side's league position.

"I think there's always been a little bit of rivalry when these two teams play each other," he said. "It was quite intense - in fact what went on was unbelievable, really, with the referee getting injured and players getting sent off, but that's just because it's a passionate game."

The Whites boss was sent from the dug-out after a bitter touchline altercation with his opposite number Tommy Warrilow, who was also shown a red card.

The incident was sparked when Ollie Schulz was shown a straight red for apparently elbowing Carl Rook, with Hessenthaler apparently unhappy with the reaction from the Tonbridge bench.

After the game however, he was conciliatory, saying: "Tommy was sticking up for his player and I was sticking up for mine - it was just the heat of the moment."

Hessenthaler now has to ponder what he can do for an encore, having won a second successive title, this time with 104 points.

LEAGUE TABLES RYMAN PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Dover Athletic	42	33	5	4	+57	104
2 Staines Town	42	23	13	6	+34	82
3 Tonbridge Angels	42	20	13	9	+28	73
4 Carshalton Athletic	42	19	11	12	+1	68
5 Sutton United	42	18	13	11	+4	67
6 AFC Hornchurch	42	19	8	15	+9	65
7 Wealdstone	42	18	8	16	+14	62
8 Dartford	42	17	11	14	+13	62
9 Tooting & Mitcham	42	16	10	16	+0	58
10 Ashford Town (Midd)	42	18	2	22	-2	56
11 Billericay Town	42	15	11	16	-12	56
12 Canvey Island	42	16	7	19	-5	55
13 Horsham	42	16	7	19	-11	55
14 Harrow Borough	42	14	12	16	-17	54
15 Maidstone United	42	14	11	17	-5	53
16 Hendon	42	15	6	21	-4	51
17 Hastings United	42	14	7	21	-16	49
18 Boreham Wood	42	12	12	18	-13	48
19 Margate	42	13	7	22	-13	46
20 Harlow Town	42	13	6	23	-16	42
21 Heybridge Swifts	42	10	11	21	-22	41
22 Ramsgate	42	8	11	23	-32	31

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

1 Kingstonian	42	26	8	8	+43	86
2 Gray Wanderers	42	24	7	11	+34	79
3 Fleet Town	42	21	15	6	+39	78
4 Metropolitan Police	42	21	14	7	+27	77
5 Worthing	42	21	13	8	+29	76
6 Sittingbourne	42	19	13	10	+9	70
7 Merstham	42	18	10	14	+3	64
8 Ashford Town	42	16	15	11	+14	63
9 Godalming Town	42	17	11	14	+21	62
10 Croydon Athletic	42	16	14	12	+13	62
11 Folkestone Invicta	42	16	11	15	+8	59
12 Dulwich Hamlet	42	15	15	12	+14	57
13 Eastbourne Town	42	17	6	19	-7	57
14 Walton & Hersham	42	13	11	18	-9	50
15 Leatherhead	42	14	8	20	-17	50
16 Whitstable Town	42	14	8	20	-19	50
17 Walton Casuals	42	12	8	22	-17	44
18 Whyteleafe	42	11	10	21	-16	43
19 Burgess Hill Town	42	10	13	19	-17	43
20 Corinthian-Casuals	42	11	10	21	-30	43
21 Chipstead	42	8	12	22	-39	36
22 Crowborough	42	4	4	34	-83	16

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 VCD Athletic	32	22	4	6	44	70
2 Hythe Town	32	21	4	7	32	67
3 Greenwich Borough	32	20	4	8	15	63
4 Faversham Town	32	20	2	10	43	62
5 Holmesdale	32	18	7	7	27	61
6 Herne Bay	32	19	3	10	18	60
7 Erith Town	32	14	10	8	20	54
8 Erith & Belvedere	32	16	5	11	17	53
9 Croydon	32	15	4	13	18	49
10 Tunbridge Wells	32	13	6	13	3	45
11 Norton Sports	32	12	4	16	-13	40
12 Deal Town	32	10	8	14	4	38
13 Slade Green	32	11	4	17	-13	37
14 Sevenoaks Town	32	9	4	19	-23	31
15 Beckenham Town	32	8	4	20	-22	28
16 Lordswood	32	6	3	23	-36	21
17 Sporting Bengal	32	0	0	32	-134	0

Campaign to forget for Deal as they finish with a whimper

FOOTBALL

Deal Town 1 Greenwich Borough 2

DEAL Town's season ended on a sour note after a disappointing defeat at home to Greenwich Borough at the weekend.

After a quiet first half at the Charles Sports Ground, the game sprang into life in the final half an hour.

Borough's John Sisson opened the scoring for the visitors just before the hour mark and as Deal pushed forward to try and find the equaliser, they were hit on the break by Borough.

Greenwich forward Danny Hunt notched a goal on 77 minutes to ensure they would leave the Charles Sports Ground with all three points ensuring they finished the season in a surprising third position in the Kent League Premier Division.

Deal did manage to score before the end, but Robinson's 88th minute goal proved nothing more than a consolation as they slipped to their 14th defeat of the season.

Derek Hares, who told this newspaper last week that he would be in charge of the side next season, has pointed to injuries to key players such as Marc Pollard and Stuart Vahid as to the reason why his side finished 12th in the league.

The Deal boss will hope to keep hold of players such as Vahid and influential midfielder Dave Bathgate - who shunned a move to Faversham Town at the beginning of last season - if they are to improve on this season's displays.



STAYING? Deal boss Derek Hares hopes to keep midfielder Dave Bathgate at the club next season

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2nd March 2009

M Corrican, Dover
Friendly, clean quick service.

Mr Rhodes, Hythe
I am very pleased with the product and the professional way the windows were installed but what pleased me more was the fact that the fitters took only one day they were also very polite and helpful. Thank you

Mrs Sims, Ashford
Very quick, tidy and efficient.

Mrs C Taylor, Whitstable
From the moment we outlined our requirements over a cup of tea at Britelite's showroom at Westgate, the whole installation had been a delight. Every member of staff has been friendly cheerful and helpful. There was no "hard Sell" and there was a genuine desire to listen and to meet our requirements at a competitive price. The installers turned up at the appointed time, completed the work on schedule and cleared all debris to the point where it was impossible to detect that they had been. They were clearly very experienced took account of our comments and provided some excellent work. The windows are excellent and there is no sign of any damage to existing decoration, our next step is to have a window fitted to our recently refurbished kitchen one of the reasons we held back on this was because we wanted to see the standard of Britelite's workmanship. We would have no worries about using them for his task. I would also have no problem in recommending the company to others, well done Britelite, what a breath of fresh air in an industry that doesn't always get rave reviews.

3rd March 2009

Mrs F Collier, Crowborough
We were impressed by the conscientious efficient, tidy workmanship of both fitters. They did an excellent job for which we are very grateful.

Mrs Bissett, Tunbridge Wells
Very satisfied. Thank you

Mr Dhillon, Blackheath
We like the appearance of the windows installed. They were fitted with the minimum of disruption to us. We are completely satisfied with the workmanship, behavior and tidiness of your fitters.

4th March 2009

Mrs J Guy, Surrey
Very good quality workmanship we were very happy with the finished product both fitters were polite and efficient. Job well done.

6th March 2009

Mr D Moss, Ashford
We would refer anybody to Britelite.

Mr & Mrs Taylor-Ryall, Hythe
Friendly, helpful installers who worked quickly efficiently and were very tidy. Pleased with finish. Will use Britelite again for any future work.

Mr J Ricketts, Paddock wood
Installation carried out to high standards. Finishing was excellent and work area tidied. Installers did not leave until I was conversant with the door locking mechanism.

Mr Galer, Faversham
Both the teams that built our conservatory were exceptional. The team that erected the conservatory were very professional hard working and trustworthy and made a excellent job of our conservatory. I would have no hesitation in recommending Britelite to anyone. This has been the third time I have chosen Britelite for work on my home and it will not be the last.

Mr & Mrs James, Sevenoaks
Very efficient, tidy and pleasant.

Mr R Pennink, Tunbridge Wells.
Your fitters took a lot of care to make sure that the job was well finished.

quote. Our installers were very professional, working flat out over two days and fitted the windows to a very high standard. They told us of problems on two of the sashes (that we would never have noticed) and arranged for them to be replaced quickly. The office kept us well informed throughout and the girls I spoke to on different occasions were always polite and cheerful. We would not hesitate in recommending Britelite to anyone. Thank you.

13th March 2009

Mr Ninn, Maidstone
We were very pleased with the work carried out which only took two days to complete, all the men did a first class job of work and we would certainly recommend your firm.

Mr S Bell, Maidstone
Polite, helpful and personable fitters.

Mr & Mrs Grundy, Rainham
Came on time, friendly and good workers.

Mr D Bates, Ashford
Fitters came got on with the job, tidied away the rubbish, demonstrated product, answered all questions. A good professional job as always.

Mr & Mrs D Bryant, Pembury

We found all your staff from the ladies in the office, the sales rep, the surveyor and the installation team were all very polite and efficient. An excellent team having done an excellent job.

Mrs E Melville, Faversham
I am very pleased.

Mrs M Smith, Tenterden
The two men who installed the replacement front door were very efficient, tidy and speedy. The whole operation was carried out in the most professional way and it was a pleasure to have them working here. I am very pleased with the door too.

Mr & Mrs Cornish, Dormansland
Efficient, hard working, friendly team. This is our second installation and once again we are really pleased with the service we have been given. We shall certainly be using Britelite when we complete our windows hopefully next year.

Mr P Chandler, Hastings
Very pleased with the quality of the product windows, doors and patio doors. Installed when promised to a very high standard. No issues at all, installers were very professional and tidy.

26th March 2009

Mrs Nneka, Nottingham
The finishing is very good and will recommend Britelite any day.

Mr M Chessum, London
I was entirely satisfied with the whole process. Britelite really does put the competition to shame. From the first visit to installation I have been impressed and content with the service I have received.

25th March 2009

Mr Chris Hollyoak, Tunbridge Wells
Two very personable, well organised, polite fitters. Very clean workmen. A credit to your company. Excellent job.

Mr W.E Sutherden, Dartford
A superb quality product, installed by professional tradesmen. Thank you very much.

Mrs Gray, Folkstone
This is not the first installation that I have had done by Britelite once again I am a satisfied customer I was amazed at how quick and efficient the fitters were. They didn't stop for tea-breaks and worked so well together as a team – even my neighbour remarked on a good job.

Mr G.F.J Stannard, Dover
A professional job, by a professional installation team. Thank You.w

Mr I Guy, Carshalton
Windows and doors look great, they were installed in a quick and timely manner. Quality of installation is very good.

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Mrs De'arth, Tunbridge Wells
Very quick, very polite very satisfied.

Mr Straight, Sittingbourne
An excellent job.

Mr Free, Maidstone
A very fast, polite and tidy team.

10th March 2009

Mr J Galvin, Dover
We could not have had a better installation. Both fitters were top class as customer we could not be more pleased.

11th March 2009

Mr & Mrs Munro, Sutton
We are absolutely delighted with our windows and doors! The whole process was unexpectedly painless. How refreshing to deal with a company that don't "hardsell" Or give over the top quotes followed by fake discounts. We declined two other companies because of this. After reading all the positive testimonials on the review center website we decided to see if Britelite would come out as far as Sutton. The representative was a breath of fresh air - giving us good advice and a quick no nonsense

Mr & Mrs Wilkin, Maidstone
Great installation team, very pleased with work done.

Mrs Martin, Rochester
We are very pleased with the windows we had installed this week. The young men who did the job were both very pleasant and left everything tidy as possible thank you very much.

Mr P Dowsett, Mitcham
Extremely professional fitters very tidy quality of work was excellent, attention to detail as superb. Windows and door of porch have greatly enhance the outside of our property.

17th March 2009

Mr K Eyyoup, Bromley
Kept to the appointment day, clean and tidy, nice windows.

Mr & Mrs Martin, Rochester
Very pleased how quickly the job was finished by one man, leaving no mess.

24th March 2009

Mr C Parry, Gillingham
Fitters on both days were very professional and courteous. They were joined by another pair of fitters on the second day to install the plant on bay and front door. The whole house was completed in two days. All the fitters worked continuously and tidied up afterwards. The transformation to the house is remarkable.

Mrs M Wilson, Rye
Both of the men were first class.

Mrs M Godwin, Bexleyheath
Very punctual, quick, efficient and tidy. No mess to clear. All round an excellent product and excellent service.

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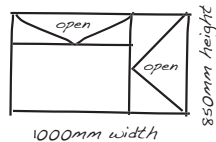
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